Tropical disturbance seen to bring heavy showers to Marianas. PAGE 3
Spotlight focuses on opioid, substance abuse in the CNMI. PAGE 7

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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TUESDAY OCTOBER 5, 2021
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MARINE BEACH CLEANUP
Tasi to Table's student participants clean up Marine Beach last Saturday with the help of the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance. Last Saturday was a busy day for TTT's students. In the morning, the almost 100 students from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota who will be participating in eight-month programs hosted by TTT this school year were treated to a meet-and-greet event at Kagman High School that featured Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, the CNMI Public School System Mental Health Team, representatives from the U.S. Army and Coast Guard, and others. In the afternoon, the students were treated to an islandwide tour of Saipan and capped the day with a cleanup of Marine Beach and a bonfire hosted by the PSS Mental Health Team where the students gathered together to socialize and talk about their mental health.

JOSHUA SANTOS

TRIP faces complication

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority's tourism resumption program, or TRIP, has hit a snag, with the influx of tourists expected to arrive in the next few months but with not enough room at the hybrid quarantine facility to accommodate all of them.

According to Ivan Quichocho, MVA board member and TRIP South Korea chairman, over 40 TRIP bookings had been cancelled as of Sept. 30 because there was no room at the Kensington Hotel Saipan, the CNMI's lone hybrid quarantine facility, where the arriving Travel Bubble tourists stay for their initial stay in the CNMI.

Quichocho said CNMI could have served over 8,000 TRIP participants from October to Dec. 31 if there was enough room at the hybrid quarantine facility.

"As a result of these numbers, we need to take a long hard look at expanding the hybrid quarantine in order to keep up with the volume," he said.

See TRIP on Page 4

Capsized kayakers, distressed swimmers over the weekend

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
- **Red:** Least safe
- **Orange**
- **Yellow**
- **Blue**
- **Green:** Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The case of the overdue kayaker whose body was later found floating face down near the barrier reef of the Saipan Lagoon was not the only incident that occurred over the weekend, with the Department of Public Safety actually responding to two other reports of distressed swimmers and

See CAPSIZED on Page 4

Calvani Deleon Guerrero is 2021 Bridge of Light awardee

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Calvani Deleon Guerrero is this year's recipient of the Bridge of Light Award, which honors his

See CALVINI on Page 4

This year's Bridge of Light Award recipient, Calvani Deleon Guerrero, poses for a photo with his wife, Bridget Maratita Deleon Guerrero, after yesterday's Domestic Violence Awareness Month proclamation signing at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Ballroom.

JOSHUA SANTOS

AT A GLANCE

As of 5:55pm, Oct.4, 2021

VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Eligible Population Fully Vaccinated:	82.3%
Days since last community transmission	194

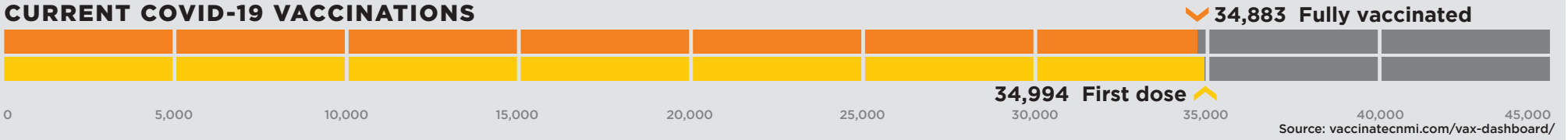
Pfizer/BioNTech	
Initiated:	30,125
Fully Vaccinated:	29,421
Moderna	
Initiated:	4,869
Fully Vaccinated:	4,652
Janssen	
Fully Vaccinated:	810

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	15,252	110	15,362
Recovered	11,372	"NU	11,372
Active	3,682	110	3,792
Deaths	198	0	198

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	272	0	272
Traced via Travel Screening	235	0	235
Traced via Community Screening	37	0	37
Deaths	2	0	2

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., https://www.vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/

CURRENT COVID-19 VACCINATIONS



Source: vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/

INSIDE

LOCAL
Patsylynn Cepeda and Alina Ishikawa pursue ever higher ideals in their careers.
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BUSINESS
Leaked records open 'a Pandora's box' of hidden wealth among hundreds of world leaders.
PAGE 11

LIFE & STYLE
"Venom: Let There Be Carnage" blew away expectations to debut with $90.1 million in ticket sales.
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Local

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios pose for a souvenir picture with Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence members, community advocates, and supporters of victims of domestic and sexual violence at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort after the signing of a proclamation yesterday designating October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

CUC works to replace Cashpower meters with Smart meters

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s Cashpower metering system's token generation equipment at the Dandan office failed last Friday, Oct. 1,2021, leaving many customers without the ability to purchase tokens for their pre-pay Cashpower meters.

Without these tokens, the meters will not function; therefore, CUC's meter inspectors will replace the meters with a new Nighthawk web-based Smart meter.

Working late into the night on Friday, CUC energized many of the meters affected by this problem and will continue until all meters are addressed.

As part of the Smart-Grid technology, CUC has been preparing to migrate from token meters to Web-based Smart meters over the last year. The Nighthawk Smart meters have a number of advanced features including being capable of being read remotely, reducing the need for meter reading.

In addition, the meters are considered an essential part of a modem Smart-grid by providing voltage monitoring and alarms, prepay capability, outage notification and restoration alerts to the CUC office and remote disconnect and disconnect capability.

Customers may also connect to the meter with their home computer, laptop or cell phone anywhere around the world, connected to WI-FI, to monitor usage and control their monthly bill.

For more information, contact the CUC Hotline at 236-4333 or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.cotn/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/l. ***(PR)***

Tropical disturbance seen to bring heavy showers to Marianas

Heavy showers and thunderstorms are expected to increase across the Marianas region by midweek due to a tropical disturbance, "Invest Area 93W," just southwest of Chuuk that is expected to track north-northwest the next few days, coming closer to the Marianas by the end of the week.

At this time, uncertainty remains for the exact forecast track and intensity of the system as it approaches the Marianas, according to a news release yesterday by the National Weather Service Guam Weather Forecast Office.

"Guam can expect to receive numerous heavy showers between Wednesday and Friday. Depending on how organized the system is and where it tracks when it approaches, current estimates call for 1 to 1.25 inches of rainfall per day all week, with heavier showers by midweek. Changes to this forecast are likely as conditions evolve," the news release stated.

In the CNMI, heavy rainfall is possible Wednesday through the weekend, said the CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point yesterday, citing data from NWS Guam.

It also cited a developing disturbance southwest of Chuuk as the cause of the rainy weather. It is expected to move toward the Marianas over the next several days. The strength of this system is questionable at this time. However, it does appear likely that the system will bring heavy rainfall to the Marianas around midweek that may last through the weekend. Latest model guidance shows rainfall potential of 5 to 10 inches across the region, with locally heavier rainfall likely.

Localized flooding will be possible in low-lying and poor drainage areas while flash flooding will be possible in areas of heaviest rainfall, especially near steep terrain. Rainfall over the next couple of days will help to keep the ground fairly wet, helping to increase the risk of flooding. This developing situation will continue to be monitored closely and a flash flood watch may be issued if conditions warrant.

EOC is advising the public that localized flooding will be possible in low-lying and poor drainage areas. Check storm drains in your area to make sure they are not clogged. If planning anything outdoors next week, have a backup plan in place.

Inexperienced swimmers should remain out of the water due to dangerous surf conditions. The public is advised to avoid venturing out toward north facing reefs. If caught in a rip current, relax and float. Don`t swim against the current. If able, swim in a direction following the shoreline. If unable to escape, face the shore and call or wave for help.

Take the following preparedness actions now:

■ Those living in flood-prone areas should take action; clear drainage areas and unblock clogged storm drains in your area to minimize flooding.

■ Take action if flood advisories are issued. Do not camp, park, or hike along streams, rivers, and creeks during heavy rainfall. These areas can flood quickly and with little warning.

■ Clear loose debris around your yard and store any items such as tents and canopies that may become airborne with heavy winds before inclement weather arrives.

■ Stay up to date with the latest information. The system track or intensity may change, and advisories may be issued.

■ Locate or prepare your emergency preparedness kits for your household

■ Secure important documents such as birth certificates, tax papers, and insurance documents and keep copies in a water-proof bag.

■ Gas your vehicles and get fuel for your generators.

(Saipan Tribune)

OPA finds MRSO's organizational structure unclear

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Office of the Public Auditor has found that the CNMI Medical Referral Services Office's organizational structure is unclear.

In its audit report released last week, OPA said they found that MRSO's only governing criteria are internal policies, statute on Medical Referral Patient Family Escort, Government Liability Act, and MRSO's standard operating procedures that explain the referral approval process.

OPA conducted the audit on MRSO for fiscal years 2018 to 2020 to determine if effective internal controls are in place to ensure proper cash management, issue and enforce promissory notes, and ensure compliance with applicable laws, rules and regulation when determining patient and escort eligibility.

OPA said that without an enabling legislation, statutorily authorized regulations, or standard operating procedures, MRSO is left without proper guidance to ensure efficient operations.

OPA recommended that MRSO develop a plan to meet with all stakeholders and establish proper internal controls to ensure an affordable, effective, and equitable program.

MRSO director Ronald D. Sablan agreed with OPA's recommendation.

In MRSO's response, Sablan said there has been no official statute to establish MRSO's program since its inception. Sablan said they take the position following the Office of the Attorney General's recommendation that the Office of the Governor assume the responsibility for the administration and operation of the off-island Medical Referral Program.

He encouraged a legislative process in line with the OAG's recommendation to legally establish the MRSO as an independent agency under the Executive Branch and appropriately funded.

The director said pending legislative action, the proposed completion is currently in process.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther L. Muña also agreed with OPA's recommendation. In CHCC's response to the audit, Muña said that, although the OAG believes CHCC should be administering the Medical Referral program, CHCC is unable to address this finding on organizational structure as the repeal of a statute took away CHCC's specific authority to adopt regulations when off-island care is necessary and appropriate. She said legislation needs to be passed to cure this organizational structure finding.

OPA said MRSO's internal policy requires that MRSO manage a program and its operation to ensure that health care benefits afforded to residents of the CNMI are provided in a cost-efficient and equitable manner. However, OPA said, MRSO has been an entity under the Office of the Governor where funds can be reallocated to cover expenses without legislative oversight. As a result, OPA said, a large variance between what was appropriated and the actual expenditures increased each fiscal year.

OPA noted that MRSO's current organization chart reflects that MRSO has two gubernatorial appointed officers in-charge, one for the Guam satellite office and one for the Hawaii satellite office. OPA said both of the OICs are to report to the MRSO director, who then reports to the governor.

However, OPA learned from interviews that on many occasions, the OICs report directly to the governor, bypassing the director, which impedes the MRSO's management's ability to communicate and function effectively.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-21-036

Office Space Rental for CUC's Administrative Functions and Operations

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from firms for Office Space Rental for CUC's Administrative Functions and Operations in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $25.00 for one package.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies of your submission must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC-RFP-21-036, Office Space Rental for CUC's Administrative Functions and Operations"*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. on October 15, 2021.** Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. All proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

All Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. The Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 23, 2021** to Manny Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address, manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John C. Mafnas, Contracts Officer at john.mafnas@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC's Senior Administrative Technician at marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY BOYER SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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2nd Floor Arrival Bldg.
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E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com •
Website: www.cnmiports.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 04-2021

Opening date: September 20, 2021 Closing date: October 08, 2021

Positions: (1) Receptionist/Secretary (Saipan)
(1) Custodial/Maintenance-I (CPA Rota)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the ***CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport.*** Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10-year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport is no later than **5:00 P.M. on Friday, October 08, 2021.**

Detailed information on qualifications and position descriptions for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., except on holidays, at the CPA Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at lorna.tenorio@cnmiports.com or by phone at (670)237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

VOX POPULI

Today being World Teachers' Day, what is a favorite memory you have of a teacher?

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

"My most favorite memory was when I was still a senior in high school. I had just come to school and was exhausted from working late the night before. ...But on this day, he was acting out a part from the story, *Beowulf*. He jumped and did the monster's voice, which woke me up.

"...After this class, I had to go straight to work. He pulled me to the side to speak to me once everyone else had left. 'I don't usually do this, but you're welcome to come into my classroom in the morning before class starts and during lunch if you're not rushing off for work. You can do your work here or you can even take a nap here. I won't bother you and you can bring a friend or two in here if it helps you. Even if you need someone to talk to, I'll be here.'

"These words are not verbatim, but they showed me how much some teachers value their students over their salary. Not only was my education being taken care of, but so was my physical and mental health. I am grateful for this teacher and everything he has done for me, his students, the school, and the growing community as well. I look up to the educators who do the same thing for their students."

—Crystal Fiona Rio, *Chalan Kanoa*

"It was my first-grade teacher. ...She was one of many teachers that treated me with extreme kindness. She made me feel comfortable and made learning fun and exciting. I recall that when my fellow classmates and I would feel hungry, she would make every attempt to provide [us food]. She did say we could not learn on an empty stomach and, well, she did provide where she could. She cared so much for her students and this is the only reason why I remember her so vividly. There was not a day that she did not put her best foot forward for all of us in the classroom. I truly appreciate her and hope she is doing well today."

—Wayne Pangelinan, *Papago*

"There are many memories, it's actually hard to pick a favorite but one that I cherish and remember fondly: My first-grade teacher in [Mount Carmel School] Sister +Aurora Tano and vice principal +Eme Camacho. I skipped K-5 and went to first grade when I was 4 years old. I recall being behind during class, not knowing how to write the numbers and tell time in a "clock" activity. I felt like an impostor and wanted to stop going to school. Sr. +Aurora tutored me every Saturday morning to get me up to speed and I will always remember VP +Eme giving me encouraging pep talks to boost my confidence during that first year at MCS. I'll never forget the warmth of her character and guidance. I'll always remember she had the biggest smile on her face when I aced my first test. This happened almost three decades ago, but there are some things you just never forget."

—Jacqueline Che, *Kannat Tabla*

"The best teachers want you to have fun, and some of my most fun memories at Mount Carmel are with Dr. [Galvin Deleon Guerrero]. As my AP Government and English instructor, "Dr. G" always found ways to weave fun with learning. By the end of every novel we read, Dr. G would divide the class into *Star Wars*-themed groups and pit us against each other in Jeopardy. The winning group would receive an automatic 100% on the following quiz, so we took winning seriously. Looking back, we may have taken winning a little too seriously. It felt like my team, the Sith, paralleled our movie counterparts. I bet he had a lot of fun watching us scream answers at each other and treat a game like Jeopardy as life or death.

"What I also loved about Dr. G is that we both love *Star Wars*. Growing up, I thought I was the biggest *Star Wars* fan in the world, but after my first time visiting his office, I was wrong. He had so much memorabilia in it that it could be a museum. One time, during the premiere of *Rogue One* in 2017, he caught me finishing my novel critique on *Hamlet* in the row in front of him, just before the movie began and the night it was due.

"Since high school, Dr. G has supported countless students and me with their academic and career journeys. I wouldn't be where I am today if it weren't for his counsel and love of learning."

—Nathaniel Snodgrass, *San Vicente*

"I had so many awesome teachers, but I always felt that school was not as useful as experience. When I went to college here, I took EN101, Dr. [Constantine] Popadapolous' class [at the Northern Marianas College]. He said that the degree we earn is proof that we are teachable. 'When we think about how this might apply to work, think of how difficult it may be to train a new employee. By having that degree, you have proof that you were able to go out and learn new things. That piece of paper becomes an artifact of your ability to be given a task and conquering it.' I can happily say that it gave me a new perspective. These are the things, inspire to aspire. *Biba* to all the teachers!"

—Keoni Hosono, *As Falpi*

CALVANI

From Page 1

10-plus years of advocacy for victims of domestic and sexual violence in the CNMI.

Deleon Guerrero, who has been with Karidat Social Services for 11 years, was presented the award yesterday during the Domestic Violence Awareness Month proclamation signing at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Ballroom.

In a later interview, Deleon Guerrero said his over a decade experience of advocating for victims has allowed him to point victims toward much-needed resources, such as helping file temporary restraining orders against abusers and referring victims to various agencies.

When asked what are the most common issues he has encountered thus far in his dealings with domestic disputes, Deleon Guerrero said it varies and that these issues are very often a mix of several factors.

"It varies because it's a compounding situation. When someone comes in as a domestic violence victim [that is] being physically abused, with that comes emotional and verbal abuse. It's never just one, it's a compounding issue," he said. Deleon Guerrero did note, though, that cases of physical abuse are the most prevalent.

During yesterday's Domestic Violence Awareness Month proclamation signing, it was shared that the COVID-19 pandemic greatly affected households, especially abusive households, through financial stresses as a result of losing work due to the pandemic and keeping victims in close proximity to their domestic abusers as people were asked to remain indoors.

Deleon Guerrero said that, indeed, he and others were concerned for domestic violence victims at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic last year. "When the pandemic happened, we were so concerned about the victims because they have to be in the household [with their abusers], and if you're in an abusive relationship you can't go [anywhere]," he said.

Deleon Guerrero added that the number of calls from victims coming forward went down last year, as victims were unable to leave their households and/or were unable to create plausible excuses to tell their abusers why they were leaving their households during lockdown.

Deleon Guerrero said that helping others is what he loves to do. "It's what I love to do. I love helping people, so it comes naturally. ...This is my calling," he said.

The Bridge of Light Award is the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence's annual award that honors the efforts and accomplishments of one extraordinary individual in the CNMI who works diligently to keep the community safe, works to end domestic violence and sexual assault, and seeks to be a "Bridge of Light" for victims and survivors.

CAPSIZED

From Page 1

capsized kayaks.

According to Department of Public Safety spokesperson Dre Pangelinan, DPS responded to three incidents over the weekend and, of the three, only one resulted in a fatality.

The most recent incident DPS responded to was a call regarding two distressed kayakers at around 5:25pm last Sunday within Pau Pau lagoon in San Roque. DPS Boating Safety made it to the scene at around 5:36pm and found that both kayakers had made it safely back to shore.

Police learned that the first kayaker was fishing near the reef line when, as he was reeling in a fresh catch, a big wave knocked him overboard. His friend saw that he needed assistance and got into another kayak and paddled out from shore. The second kayaker managed to reach the first kayaker and both were able to make their way back to shore.

Earlier that day, at around 12:18pm, DPS received a call regarding three distressed swimmers just behind the Aquarius Beach Tower in Chalan Kanoa.

DPS Boating Safety Section immediately launched the Zodiac 1 Rescue boat from the Smiling Cove Marina to assist. Fortunately, the three swimmers were rescued and made it back to shore safely.

Police learned that a group of four teenagers began fishing around 10am when strong currents pulled the group out to the reef at around 11am. At approximately 11:30am, the group attempted to swim back to shore, but two were having a hard time. One friend swam to shore to call for police assistance while the two friends outside the reef managed to ride a wave that pushed them back to shore.

Meanwhile, at around 2:41pm last Friday, DPS responded to a report regarding a capsized kayak that belonged to the late Juan A. Aldan. His vessel was reportedly found in the waters fronting the National Office Supply along Beach Road. At about 2:58pm, DPS Boating Safety Section launched a jetboat from the Smiling Cove Marina to assist.

At about 3:18pm, the jetboat arrived at the capsized kayak and did not notice any operator nearby. A surface diver was deployed as the jetboat continued to search between Oleai and the Garapan Fishing Base.

During the first-day search, several items were recovered, including a yellow kayak, black Jansport bag, and two blue cushions. The search was then called off at about 6:54 pm due to low light and was continued the next day.

At around 7am the following morning, DPS rescue boats and DPS jet skis, along with a Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services boat, continued the search.

At about 11:08am, a boater entering the channel noticed an unresponsive individual floating in the water. The witness immediately called 911 for police assistance. A nearby jet ski was dispatched to meet with the boater.

The victim was brought to the Fishing Base Marina where a family member identified the victim as Aldan.

At about 11:18am, medics transported the victim to the Commonwealth Health Center where Dr. Brian Strickland pronounced the victim dead at 11:29am.

DPS encourages kayakers and swimmers to notify friends or family members about float plans or what area they plan to visit and what time you expect to return. Kayakers and swimmers should also check the weather prior to paddling out and always pack sufficient hydration, especially on hot sunny days.

TRIP

From Page 1

Currently, the CNMI expects to serve a total of 7,794 TRIP participants through the end of the year.

Fortunately, two hotels have submitted proposals, or have shown interest in submitting a proposal, to serve as a hybrid quarantine facility but to date, MVA has yet to release the names of which hotel has submitted proposals.

With the proposals, the CNMI can expect its hybrid quarantine facility to expand by roughly up to 140 more rooms, Quichocho said.

Because of the CNMI's growing popularity in South Korea as the only marketable destination and the safest destination to travel, bookings continue to grow in numbers every day and airlines have also started proposing to increase daily flights to Saipan due to the demand.

According to Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Priscilla Iakopo, two of South Korea's most popular airlines, Air Busan and Air Seoul, have reached out to MVA and want to participate in the Saipan-South Korea Travel Bubble program.

Iakopo said the two airlines are looking at launching their first flights to the CNMI as early as October.

From the inception of the program until the end of the year, the CNMI has either served or has booked 7,899 passengers to participate in the program.

Contractor's request for receivership is denied

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The U.S. District Court for the NMI has denied a contractor's request for a receivership against an apartment investor because it failed to serve the investor with the motion for a receivership.

Last week, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona, denied without prejudice Peace & Order Trading Corp.'s motion to appoint a receiver for apartment investor Fairyland Investment, LLC to help Peace & Order satisfy the $767,697.50 judgment.

The court denied Peace & Order's motion without prejudice so that it could refile a new motion that properly follows the procedures of the court's local rule.

Manglona pointed out that Peace & Order moved for an appointment of a receiver, but never served Fairyland with its motion as required by Local Rule 63.1.

The court noted that, while the plaintiff cited Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to warrant a receivership, Peace & Order's request relied on state law for the appointment of a receiver.

In line with federal rules, Manglona said, the district court has a local rule pertaining to receiverships, Local Rule 63.1. This rule requires the service of a motion to appoint a receiver to be served on all parties and compels the defendant to list the defendant's creditors and their addresses within seven days after being served.

According to court documents, back on April 13, 2021, the court issued a default judgment against Fairyland in the principal amount of $767,697.50 plus attorney's fees and costs, including applicable federal interest rate for post-judgment interest.

On July 24, Peace & Order, through lawyer Colin Thompson, asked the court for an order appointing a receiver to administer, collect, or sell any real or personal property in which Fairyland Investment, LLC has an interest, specifically two lots on Navy Hill.

Thompson also asked for an order directing Fairyland to turn over to the receiver title to its assets in an amount sufficient to satisfy the judgment.

Peace & Order sued Fairyland Investment, LLC, for breach of construction contract and unjust enrichment.

Peace & Order was a contractor hired by Fairyland to remodel and build an apartment building on Navy Hill, Saipan. The lawsuit stated that Peace & Order stopped work on the project because Fairyland refused to pay the amount owed for work completed.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SCC October General membership meeting

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will be hosting its monthly general membership meeting tomorrow, Oct. 6, 2021, at the Hyatt Regency Saipan Ballroom.

Topics and guest speaker include:

■ Ben Babauta (CEO, Pacific Mini Games 2022), who will speak about the exciting event and opportunity for next year Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022.

■ Professional Development Award, which is provided for SCC members to encourage businesses to equip their employees with the skills needed to grow, thrive, and succeed.

■ Toys for Tots 2021 Campaign Launch and how to be a partner to bring joy to a child this Christmas.

■ Healthcare Open Enrollment. An insurance representative will be present to discuss benefits.

■ Board of directors nominations. SCC president Joe Guerrero will announce the opportunity for eligible members to be a part of the Chamber board.

Lunch will be served at 11:30am and the meeting will begin promptly at noon. The luncheon fee is $25/Chamber member and $35/non-member.

The Saipan Chamber kindly asks for attendees to RSVP online at their event at https://business.saipanchamber.com/events/calendar. To reserve or for six or more seats, contact the Chamber office at (670) 234-7150 or email coordinator2@saipanchamber.com before 10am Wednesday. ***(PR)***

Guam tax refunds out

HAGATNA, Guam—The Guam Department of Revenue & Taxation has processed and the Department of Administration will mail checks for or pay by direct deposit 2,069 tax year 2020 and prior income tax refunds this week.

Total income tax refunds paid is approximately $5,435,726, including refunds garnished to repay government debts. These represent payment of 2,069 error-free returns filed on or before July 2, 2021.

To check the status of your income tax refund log into your individual account at https://www.myguamtax.com/ and use the 'Lookup Status of 1040 Refund' tool.

DRT can be reached at 635-1840/1841 or 635-7651. Due to high call volumes, DRT recommends to utilize the "Lookup Status" tool or contact us via the "Contact Us" section of our website or to e-mail us at incometax@revtax.guam.gov. ***(PR)***

Free webinars on federal contracting

The Guam Procurement Technical Assistance Center is offering free live webinars this month. Webinars run from 10am to 11:30am and will be conducted via Zoom. Links to the live webinar and the webinar evaluation will be emailed to all registered attendees 15 minutes before the start of the webinar.

■ **Oct. 7 - How to get HUBZone Certified**-All of Guam and the CNMI are HUBZones. The Guam PTAC will take you through the certification process, the required supporting documents, and follow-up requirements from SBA.

■ **Oct. 14 - How to get 8(a) Certified**-The SBA's 8(a) Program was created to help small, disadvantaged businesses compete in the federal procurement market. The Guam PTAC will help you navigate the forms and requirements of the 8a program.

■ **Oct. 21 - How to get Women Owned Small Business Certified**-WOSB is now an official SBA certification program. We will discuss the certification process as well as supporting document requirements.

■ **Oct. 28 - SBA Mentor-**Protege Program-The SBA Mentor-Protégé program is modeled after the 8(a) Mentor-Protégé Program. The Guam PTAC will update you on the eligibility requirements and how to apply.

To register, visit http://www.guamptac.com/news-and-events.php. ***(PR)***

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P.O. Box 10001 PMB 2318 Saipan, MP 96950
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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: ROSALIA TENORIO SABLAN	Civil Action No. 21-0259-CV NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Deceased/Decedent.	Date: October 14, 2021 Time: 10:00 am Judge: Camacho

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE ROSALIA TENORIO SABLAN, OR HER ESTATE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Co-Petitioners Daryl T. Sablan and William Torres have petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) to issue Letter of Administration for the Estate of Rosalia Tenorio Sablan, the deceased.

The hearing on the Petition is scheduled to be heard on the date and time set forth above at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at the hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased or her Estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court withing sixty (60) days of this publication of the claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to Daryl T. Sablan at 2044 Ellis St., Modesto, CA 95354 and William Torres at P.O. Box 10001 PMB 2318, Saipan MP 96950 or via email address herein-above indicated.

Dated this 14th day of September, 2021.

/s/ Clerk of Court

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING
P.O. Box 502078, Bldg., 1242 Pohnpei Court
Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel No: (670) 664-4809 Fax: (670) 664-4814
Email: cnmi@cnmibpl-hcplb.net
Website: cnmibpl-hcplb.net

Pursuant to P. L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Board of Professional Licensing (BPL) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its quarterly board meeting on ***Wednesday, October 06, 2021 at 8:30a.m.*** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the Governor's Office Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. Meeting Call to Order
II. Determination of Quorum
III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes - (from June 11, 2021)
V. Public Comments
VI. Chairman's Report
- NCEES 2021 Annual Business ZOOM Meeting

VII. Director's Report
- Financial Report
- NCARB MBE Committee Member
- Current Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architects Regulations

VIII. Investigator's Report
IX. Communications from the Governor's Office & Legislature
A. Governor's Office
B. Legislature
X. Old Business
- Update on the Appraisal Regulations Ad Hoc Committee

XI. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with counsel with pending or anticipated legal matters.
XII. New Business
XIII. Applications for Board's Review
XIV. Miscellaneous Business
XV. Announcements
A. Next Meeting Date
B. Adjournment of Meeting

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 • Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Phone: (670) 234-5498 Ext. 6824 • Email: ppmo@marianas.edu

INVITATION FOR BIDS

NMC IFB 21-0005
INSTALLATION & RETROFIT OF COURTYARD OUTDOOR LEARNING SPACE
BLDG O.

Northern Marianas College is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the Installation and Retrofit of Courtyard outdoor learning space, Bldg. O, Saipan Campus.

The bid specifications and Scope of Work packet may be pick up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. P, commencing Friday, SEPTEMBER 17, 2021 between the hours of 9:00-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.** Electronic packet, please send a request to Anita Camacho @ ppmo@marianas.edu.

A Pre-bid meeting and Site visit is scheduled for 09:00am October 01, 2021, NMC Conference Room, attendance is not mandatory but is strongly recommended.

Hard copies Bid submission
Procurement & Property Management Office, Bldg. P,
As Terlaje Campus Saipan
Due Date and Time: 10:00am, October 08, 2021, ChST

Paid for by 100% Federal Funds through US Department of Education, Emergency Assistance to Institution of Higher Education Grant, award no. P938T190005. In accordance with Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, Local Preference is not available to local businesses for this procurement.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The College reserves the right to reject any and/or all bid offers for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

/s/Anita Camacho
Procurement Manager

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION (NMHC)

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Re-Announcement

OPENING DATE: October 05, 2021 CLOSING DATE: October 20, 2021 TIME: 4:00 P.M.

NMHC JVA NO.	Positions:	Salary:
2021-032	Board Secretary	$25,000.00-$30,000.00 per annum- Ungraded

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be accessed at www.nmhcgov.net.

Applicants may submit their applications through the following options: Submission at the at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan; or at the Drop Box located in front of the NMHC Central Office building; or email application and documents to officemanager@nmhcgov.net.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6866/9447or by email to officemanager@nmhcgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/
JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION (NMHC)

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPENING DATE: October 05, 2021 CLOSING DATE: October 20, 2021 TIME: 4:00 P.M.

NMHC JVA NO.	Positions:	Salary:
2021-037	Loan Specialist I	$29,023.47-$33,627.00 - per annum- Classified

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be accessed at www.nmhcgov.net .

Applicants may submit their applications through the following options: Submission at the at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan; or at the Drop Box located in front of the NMHC Central Office building; or email application and documents to officemanager@nmhcgov.net.

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/s/
JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

Cepeda and Ishikawa keep working on achieving their dreams

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

PharmD Patsylynn Cepeda poses with her mentor, Ted Parker of Brabu Pharmacy. BEA CABRERA

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

According to PharmD Alina Ishikawa, her training and work experience at Brabu Pharmacy opened many doors for her to pursue the pharmacy program at Northeastern University in Boston.

The ultimate title for a career in pharmacy is "PharmD" or simply "Dr.," which is short for Pharmacy Doctor, and entails not only finishing a bachelor's degree and passing the licensure examinations but actually having the heart to commit to patient care, making decisions based on scientific research and being always open for innovation.

These and more are what's keeping PharmD Patsylynn Cepeda and PharmD Alina Ishikawa motivated as they pursue ever higher ideas in their careers. Another common denominator is that both women were encouraged and empowered to pursue their goals from their work experience at Brabu Pharmacy.

Cepeda, a graduate of Kagman High School, started college at the Northern Marianas College, eventually taking pre-pharmacy course at the University of Guam and continuing her Doctor of Pharmacy degree at the University of Hawaii in Hilo. She recently passed the board exam, earning her the PharmD title, and returned to Saipan to put her education into good use.

"My family supported this and gave me the idea to apply for work at Brabu Pharmacy. I got the job and caught on really fast to become a pharmacy technician. I liked what I was doing to a point that I felt that I wanted to do more. This made me pursue Pharmacy school, which was an eye opener and made me feel that this is important. It was a difficult journey but I enjoyed it and made it to the end," she added.

Cepeda started work at Brabu early this week while preparing for the other half of her licensure exam—the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination—the law examination designed to assess how knowledgeable the pharmacy graduate is about laws and regulations in his/her jurisdiction. "Aside from studying and raising my 1-year old twins, I'm back home and started working at Brabu. Throughout my journey, they have always stayed with me, always kept in touch and every time I come back, they welcome me with open arms and that is why I am back working for them. …I love how patient and family oriented they are—Ted and Kathy are great people," she said.

"Since I still have another exam to overcome, my work at Brabu entails engaging with patients by answering their questions, checking their medications to make sure that it is the right one for them, and keeping them safe. …If they need counseling for whatever medication, I will be here. …I want patients to feel at home, like they are family and most importantly, for them to be happy to come back every time," she added.

Ishikawa, a graduate of Marianas Baptist Academy on Saipan, recently graduated from pharmacy school at Northeastern University in Boston. She started as a volunteer at Brabu Pharmacy back in 2010 and became a part-time worker two years later.

"My education at MBA, all extracurricular activities—which includes experience in Mock Trial, National Speech and Debate, Science Fair, STEM Fair—definitely helped me prepare to get into the pharmacy program. Also, if it wasn't for the opportunity that Ted and Kathy gave me, I don't think I would have had the opportunity to intern at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, which is one of the top hospitals in the nation," she said.

"My path to pharmacy was inspired through my experience at Brabu where I discovered the importance of medication management. …The pharmacy program in college was rigorous, but I wouldn't have made it through without my parents, sister, my Boston and Saipan friends, extended family, and mentors that guided me throughout this," she added.

Ishikawa is on Saipan preparing for her board licensure exam and said she chose Northeastern University's accelerated pharmacy program due to its well-known cooperative education program.

At Boston Medical Center, among the experiences that taught her a lot was being part of a project "where we began transferring patient's prescriptions with the hospital's insurance plan to the hospital's Mail Order Pharmacy so that patients could get their medications delivered to their homes during the outbreak without risking exposure to the virus, which was a large-scale public health effort," she added.

To build and train young blood to get into the pharmacy profession—whether as a PharmD or a pharmacy technician—is one of the missions of Brabu Pharmacy since it opened 12 years ago according to owner and pharmacist Ted Parker.

"The amount of work that you put into mentoring people, getting them to do things and when it comes to fruition, when you see that they have actually succeeded and they have actually started believing in themselves that they can actually succeed, is the most gratifying thing in the world," he said. "… this is what the islands need. You have to build a local workforce. It is the same thing that Tony Pelligrino was doing when he started the trade institute (now the Northern Marianas Technical Institute). He understood that in order for the CNMI to succeed, your workforce has to be home-grown and relying for the U.S. for the welfare system is not going to work for the long term. We have to have a local workforce that's born, devoted and will stay here," he added.

Tipiyeew-Ina'famåolik Marianas caps Cultural Heritage Month

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

JOSHUA SANTOS

Master of ceremony John "Bolis" Gonzales, rightmost, guides Saturday's proceedings during the first-ever "Tipiyeew-Ina'famåolik Marianas" at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan.

To cap this year's celebration of Chamorro and Carolinian Cultural Heritage Month, the Indigenous Affairs Office and the Carolinian Affairs Office, with the help of the Marianas Visitors Authority, held last Saturday the first-ever "Tipiyeew-Ina'famåolik Marianas" at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan.

The event featured live cultural performances, art and culture exhibitions, live bands, many food vendors, live demonstrations of a whole-roasted cow and pig, and underground cooking of whole pigs.

To kick off the event, CAO executive assistant John Tagabuel, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, and MVA managing director Priscilla Iakopo gave brief remarks.

Tagabuel mostly spoke in Carolinian, but ended his remarks in English. He emphasized the importance of exposing the younger generations of Chamorros and Carolinians to their language and culture, and welcomed everyone present on Saturday to enjoy the food and event festivities. "We need to show our kids our culture, they need to know where we are from, and where we are heading," he said.

Torres gave his remarks entirely in Chamorro.

Palacios lauded the IAO, CAO, the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, and MVA for coming together to make the first-ever "Tipiyeew-Ina'famåolik Marianas" possible, and spoke of the importance of celebrating the uniqueness of Chamorro and Carolinian culture.

"We celebrate culture because that's who we are. We define who we are, we define our history, our art, our customs, and our traditions. In this world of diversity and globalization, it is important to recognize and celebrate that diversity of the many cultures that have begun [to] call the Commonwealth home. At the same time, we also, as Chamorros and Carolinians, celebrate our uniqueness," said Palacios.

"Gov. Torres spoke in Chamorro. That is part of our culture. I hope that our future generation will continue to look back many years from now and say thank you to our past leaders and parents for continuing and perpetuating the goodness of who we are, and to define ourselves in the future of who we are as Chamorros, Carolinians, and people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands," said Palacios.

In her remarks, Iakopo spoke of many of MVA's recent initiatives that are in line with its new strategic plan that focuses on sustainable tourism in the CNMI. Part of this plan, Iakopo said, is focusing on the CNMI's indigenous cultures. Recently, the MVA's board unanimously voted to adopt Cultural Heritage Month as an MVA signature event in hopes of promoting cultural tourism.

"Let's continue to support indigenous culture, [which] is rooted in and sprouts from the basic unit of society: family. While we want to share our culture with the world, the priority remains [on keeping] our culture alive in our homes and our communities first. …[It is] only with a strong continuing culture in the family [will] we be able to share an authentic cultural experience with our visitors," said Iakopo.

CHCC, BLUE RIBBON INITIATIVE FORGE PARTNERSHIP

Spotlight focuses on opioid, substance abuse in the CNMI

By IVA MAURIN
CORRESPONDENT

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., with the CNMI Blue Ribbon Initiative, forged an agreement last Friday to support the prevention of, and treatment of substance use disorders on island, to reduce cases of morbidity and mortality related to opioid overdoses.

CHCC acting chief executive officer Halina S. Palacios said the Initiative has met over the past months to assess, help set consortium priorities, and made action plans to address this community concern.

The CNMI has seen a jump in the number of opioid cases and other substances misuse and overdose cases this year. As of September, there have already been three opioid overdose cases recorded on island and 25 other substance overdose cases.

There were no recorded opioid overdoses last year, but CHCC reported five confirmed opioid misuse and 17 suspected opioid misuse cases.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. acting chief executive officer Halina S. Palacios speak before consortium leaders and members of the CNMI Blue Ribbon Initiative, who, over the past months have been meeting to assess, set priorities, and create action plans to help address substance abuse disorders on island. The CNMI has seen a jump in the number of opioid cases and other substances misuse and overdose cases this year, where, as of September, three opioid overdose cases on island have been recorded by the CHCC, along with 25 other substance overdose cases.

IVA MAURIN

At the event, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres appealed to people in the CNMI who are struggling with drug addiction to seek help. "Life is too precious. Every day should count for something. To those that are recovering, I agree it is a struggle. But again, we're here. I am dedicated, since Day 1, to give resources. So, please, come seek help. We have the right people, the right organization. Let's continue to fight."

CNMI Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio, who deals with people with drug addiction through the Family and Drug Court programs, stressed the significance of drug prevention campaigns, and of understanding trauma.

"The truth about drug addicts is that they are not just drug addicts. Rather, they're individuals whose addiction often stems from trauma," Kim-Tenorio said. "Many, if not majority, of the people I encounter are or were victims—victims of sexual abuse, assault, physical abuse, domestic violence, emotional abuse, children who are neglected. …Unfortunately for those individuals, the trauma has led to drug abuse as a coping mechanism. This needs to stop," she added, advocating for the development of more treatment courts, and a holistic approach to treatment, where former addicts get the help they need to reintegrate into the community.

Community Recovery advocate Jack Sablan also highlighted the importance of 12-step programs and daily recovery meetings, and appealed to the consortium to have them implemented in the CNMI.

"Service work is very important," Sablan said. "I am a recovering addict. I am full of passion with what I do today, because I'm back in the community again helping my brothers and sisters who are struggling because my story can help another struggling addict stay clean. That's how it goes. It's not so much about me anymore. It's about helping others struggling addicts."

Local agencies and departments that make up the Blue Ribbon Initiative, also called the CNMI Methamphetamine and Opioid Initiative, include all three branches of the CNMI government; mayors of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota; the Behavioral Health Planning Council; Northern Marianas College; the Public School System; Diocese of Chalan Kanoa; Saipan Chamber of Commerce; Haggan/Woong United for Recovery; and Al-Anon.

San Nicolas wants $3.68M ARPA money for Tinian

Rep. Patrick H. San Nicolas (R-Tinian) introduced Friday during a House of Representatives session a bill that proposes to appropriate up to $3.68 million from the American Rescue Plan Act's Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund to Tinian and Aguiguan.

San Nicolas

San Nicolas stated in the bill that the ARPA funds shall be used to carry out critical capital projects directly enabling work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options, in response to the public health emergency with respect to the COVID-19.

He said the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation appropriates $1 million for related construction costs and other capital investments in public facilities to meet COVID-19 related operational needs; $2 million for the improvement of ventilation systems in congregate settings, public health facilities, and other public facilities; and $681,052 to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

The total amount proposed to be appropriated is $3,681,052.

The expenditure authority shall be the mayor of the Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happiest 10th birthday to our mini-boss, Lymmia Michelle Macaranas! We love you to the moon and beyond ! Greetings come from your family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION (NMHC)

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514 I Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

10/05/2021
Notice for Public Comment
Reprogramming of Community Development Block Grant COVID (CDBG-CV) Fund

Program Year/ IDIS No.:	Program	Activity Name:	Subrecipient	Approved Budget	Proposed Reprogramming Amount	Proposed Revised Project Budget:	Current IDIS Funded Amount:
724	CDBG-CV	Mortgage Payment Assistance	Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)	$274,000.00	($110,000.00)	$174,000.00	$274,000.00
		Total Reprogrammed from Activities:		**$274,000.00**	**($110,000.00)**		
NEW	CDBG-CV	Emergency Rental Payment Assistance	Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)	$0.00	$110,000.00	$110,000.00	$0.00
		Total Reprogrammed from Activities:			$110,000.00		

Our agency through its Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) that we publish a "Public Notice" on reprogramming of funds over $100,001.00. Therefore, comments from the general public should be submitted to NMHC Central office located in Garapan, Saipan on or before November 5, 2021, no later than 4:30 P.M.. You may contact Ms. Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director or Ms. Tricia Tenorio, Planner at (670)234-6866/9447.

"NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency"

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

It's time to stop misleading consumers about the sad state of recycling

You've surely seen it before on a laundry detergent bottle label, printed on a ready-made salad bag or stamped onto the container of a thousand other products lining the shelves of grocery and retail stores: A symbol with three "chasing" arrows that form a triangle. It may be green or black. It might have a number between 1 and 7 inside the triangle, which corresponds to the type of plastic resin used to construct it, or have a suggestion about how to recycle.

To the consumer, this symbol conveys the message that this item is recyclable and, for the sake of the planet, ought to be treated accordingly and not dumped into the trash bin. But to environmentalists and waste reduction advocates the symbol is, in many cases, a half-truth used by manufacturers to "greenwash" their products.

The truth is that many, if not most, of the plastic products bearing the symbol aren't being recycled no matter if they are placed in recycling bins. In fact, less than 10% of all the single-use plastic ever made has been recycled, and that is unlikely to change without serious intervention.

That's the thinking behind Senate Bill 343 by state Sen. Ben Allen, D-Santa Monica. The bill would prohibit manufacturers from using a "chasing arrows" symbol on their products starting in 2024 unless they can prove it is not just potentially recyclable but is actually getting recycled in any meaningful way in California. It was passed by the Legislature and is now awaiting action by Gov. Gavin Newsom, along with a package of other sensible, if incremental, proposals to improve recycling.

The symbol was created in 1988 by the plastics industry with the good intention of conveying helpful information to consumers about what items could be recycled. But it went off the rails pretty quickly when package makers started plastering the symbol on just about anything, whether it could be recycled or not. The result is that consumers are optimistically filling up recycling bins with things that have no hope of being recycled, and making it difficult and more costly for recycling facilities to sort.

Unsurprisingly, plastic manufacturers opposed the bill, as they have done with all of the meaningful plastic-trash reduction proposals in recent years. They argue that the change will confuse consumers, though it is difficult to imagine that being truthful will lead to more confusion.

It's hard to say whether setting new rules for use of the recycling symbol will change consumer behavior. How many people even look at labels for information other than ingredients, calories or directions for use? That's OK. The main objective of the bill is to change behavior among package makers and nudge them toward using materials that have a high recycling rate.

Ultimately, cracking down on the "chasing arrows" symbol is a smart step in the right direction to stop misleading consumers about the sorry state of recycling.

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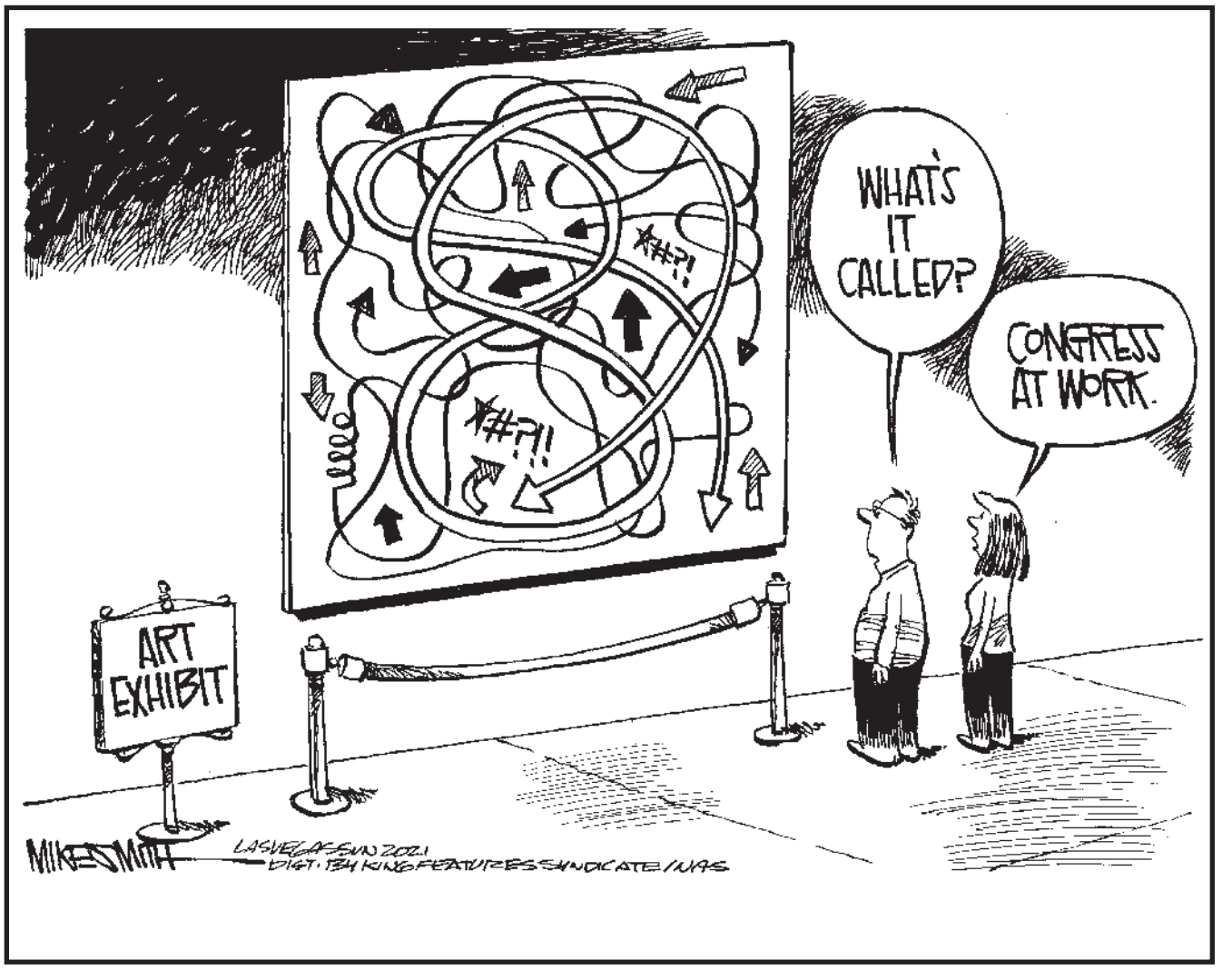

Even in the US, freedom of assembly is under threat

By VALLERI J. ROBINSON
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

In early September, a small group of women dressed in white and red protested in Minsk. They risked detainment, imprisonment and even torture in Alexander Lukashenko's Belarus simply for gathering publicly in the colors of the 1918 flag of the Belarusian People's Republic, a symbol of the current pro-democracy opposition movement. They covered their faces (also in red and white) to protect their identities from surveillance.

During the past year more than 650 political prisoners have been confined in Belarus, among them IT specialists, artists, teachers, construction workers, doctors and lawyers. One drummer was sentenced to six years for playing at a rally. Many were charged under Article 23.34, a 1997 law on mass events that deprives Belarusians of their right to peacefully assemble and subjects violators to harsh penalties.

Belarus might seem far away from the United States geographically and politically; however, Americans are also facing repressive policies intended to curtail free expression and erode the right to protest.

The First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution guarantees the "right of the people to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances," two distinctive rights. But since 2017, according to the International Center for Non-profit Law, 20 U.S. states have enacted 36 laws that restrict their residents' rights to free assembly, with 52 new laws pending. Wisconsin's SB 296/AB 279, a bill that could deter peaceful protesters from gathering by expanding the definition of "riot" and imposing severe penalties, is quickly moving through the state's legislature.

Many new and pending state laws heighten penalties for possible public damage or blocking sidewalks or streets and variously redefine "riot" to include protests that have the potential or perception of property damage or violence when three or more people gather. Some states propose to criminalize gatherings that "cause annoyance" or "public disturbance," vague terms that could be used selectively to inhibit large gatherings that temporarily disrupt the flow of traffic or generate noise.

No music, no chants, no drumming, no revelry. Dissent, these new laws suggest, must happen quietly, far away from symbolic spaces, and without drawing much attention to itself. As a theater historian who writes about performances of dissent and who has attended many peaceful protests, I've seen how the chanting and music and symbolic, embodied action enlivens a group, builds social cohesion and adds momentum to enact change peacefully.

Several states have proposed laws that would eliminate liability for motorists who injure or even kill protesters. West Virginia's HB4618, enacted in 2018, requires any bystander to help disperse an unlawful assembly, or he or she "shall be deemed a rioter." The law also allows authorities to use "any means necessary" to disperse any event deemed "unlawful"—and given the expanding definitions, that could mean almost any gathering.

These new laws, which center on the potential for violence or damage—rather than actual acts of violence or damage—are intended to deter would-be assemblers with the threat of large fines, imprisonment or being run over by a raging motorist. Along with state laws that suppress voting rights or restrict a person's right to reproductive choice, these laws infringe on civil liberties and undermine our democracy largely through intimidation and fear.

Some actions of public dissent are rightfully named "insurrections" or "riots," as they are intended to promote violence or destruction and, in those cases, laws must protect public safety. It's dangerous, though, to frame all public displays of dissent as rioting and to use the law to repress public expression. Sometimes peacefully planned events turn aggressive through provocation, but to preemptively determine this or hold event coordinators and funders liable will undermine our freedoms of expression and assembly.

When such measures are taken on foreign soil, U.S. representatives are more ready to recognize them for the attacks on democracy they are. The Federal "Belarusian Democracy, Human Rights, and Sovereignty Act of 2020″ condemns the repression under Lukashenko and was co-sponsored by 11 U.S. House Democrats and four Republicans and signed into Federal law last December.

The same week that the women bravely protested in Minsk, a group of teens in Austin, Texas, released a dance filmed at the Texas State Capitol in protest of SB 8, which restricts nearly all abortions. We can support their right to express dissent by supporting lawmakers who defend Constitutional rights and exposing the growing number of Republican lawmakers who propose to slowly erode our freedoms. Even as we work to promote democracy and civil liberties abroad, we must continue to fight—to dance, to drum, to sing—to ensure a lively civil society and active public sphere here at home.

With each new restrictive law, we are closer to becoming a country where we can no longer march to the beat of a different drum.

Valleri Robinson is an associate professor of theater at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

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By RICH LOWRY
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Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

The Age of Progressive Misinformation

How does a stupid and ridiculous lie come to be embraced and promulgated by top officials of the United States government?

Well, as it turns out, it's easy.

You start with an easily misinterpreted news photo that seemingly confirms the assumptions of progressive opponents of immigration enforcement that the agents policing our Southern border are cruel racists.

Then, you work up a Twitter mob saying that the photo has captured a tableau of hideous abuse.

You add open-borders advocacy organizations and civil rights groups denouncing the supposed misconduct in the harshest possible terms.

You throw on top a vice president and White House press secretary who have no regard for the truth and are happy to push any narrative convenient to them.

Finally, as the piece de resistance, you deploy a president of the United States who is too cynical or doddering to bother with the facts and is usually following the crowd rather the leading it and get him to make a statement endorsing the ludicrous fictions about the misleading photo.

This was the path to President Joe Biden condemning border patrol agents on horseback for having "strapped" Haiti migrants at Del Rio, Texas, and declaring that they "will pay" for their "horrible" and "outrageous" behavior.

Never mind that there was no strapping, that the border agents did nothing wrong besides trying to enforce a border crossing while working for an administration fundamentally uninterested in the task, and that there is an ongoing investigation of the agents—itself a travesty—that Biden was pre-judging.

Sawyer Hackett, an apparatchik running Julian Castro's PAC, was an early proponent of the whipping lie on Twitter. He tweeted the picture showing a border agent on horseback grabbing at the shirt of a migrant—his reins flying in the air—and said agents were "rounding up Haitian refugees with whips," and this represented "unfathomable cruelty."

It was, to the contrary, entirely fathomable and not the least bit cruel. The agents were, in a common, long-standing practice, using horses because of the difficulty of the terrain and attempting to block migrants from entering the country illegally. They didn't have whips and were twirling reins to control their horses. Within hours of the photo creating a stir, these facts were readily ascertainable.

Even Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas defended the agents before getting the memo from his superiors that they had become hated figures to be used as punching bags.

Days later, media stories still made reference to the nonexistent whips supposedly wielded by the agents.

Advocacy groups simply willed the whip story to be true, and for a swath of America—basically anyone foolish enough to take what Harris and Biden say at face value—they have succeeded.

Despite the haze of misinformation, the fact-checkers didn't descend en masse. No Twitter accounts were suspended. All the people who pride themselves on purportedly defending American democracy from falsehoods and propaganda spreading on social media (and there's unquestionably a lot of it) stood aside or joined the pile-on.

It's long been the case on college campuses that woke narratives have the power to trample facts and fairness. This phenomenon has escaped the confines of academe and now plays out at the highest echelons of American political power. Neither hacks on Twitter nor the president of the United States cared what really happened at Del Rio, not when the lie was more seductive and useful.

After R. Kelly's conviction, I'm asking why so few believed the Black women who accused him

When jurors in New York found R. Kelly guilty of federal racketeering and sex trafficking charges, the verdict not only laid bare Kelly's own perversion, it also revealed much about our society.

For decades, the 54-year-old Kelly had faced allegations that he was a child molester. He was tried in 2008 on child pornography charges, but with his acquittal in that case, the sense that he was untouchable seemed to only be magnified. Kelly, after all, was a celebrity, and not even the existence of videos chronicling his sexual abuse of underaged girls could convince America of his guilt. Instead of condemning his predatory actions, we praised Kelly's singular talent as a songwriter and performer and excused the behavior that was right before our eyes. Some even blamed the victims for placing themselves in Kelly's orbit.

The victims. That's who this was always about—and our failure to recognize what was happening was tied up in their identities. The vast majority of Kelly's accusers were young Black girls, and as such, their credibility was always in question. Their value was never affirmed. Their virtue was never protected, because in a society where racism and misogyny so often intersect, Black women and girls seldom receive sympathy—and that's why it took so long for Kelly to be convicted of his crimes.

If Kelly's victims were white women, there would have likely been a much different reaction to those earlier accusations. The authorities, the media and society as a whole would have moved heaven and Earth to take a measure of justice. That's because the stories of white women who are victims of crime take priority over cases involving nearly every other demographic in America—a media fixation so pronounced that it has a name: Missing White Woman Syndrome. For proof look no further than the latest example—the case of Gabby Petito.

Petito was blonde and attractive—a travel blogger who used YouTube and Instagram to document her trips, including her latest cross-country jaunt with her fiance, Brian Laundrie. When Petito disappeared, her story received exhaustive coverage. When her remains were found, the bright lights only intensified, and now, as the authorities search for Laundrie, who is a person of interest in Petito's death, the story has become larger than life. However, when Black women and girls are in danger, their stories are too-often cast aside.

By SOLOMON JONES
The Philadelphia Inquirer

In the case of R. Kelly, Jim DeRogatis, a white music critic, told the sordid tale in a book called "Soulless: The Case Against R. Kelly." And Black women in media took Kelly's story a step further—the filmmaker Dream Hampton interviewed the women whose accusations eventually brought down the singer for the documentary "Surviving R. Kelly." And shortly after Kelly was charged, Gayle King of CBS News conducted an explosive, prime-time interview in which Kelly denied any wrongdoing.

Still, some in the Black community refused to believe what they were seeing. Scarred by historical precedents of false rape allegations that led to the wrongful convictions of Black men, some viewed the accusations Kelly faced with suspicion.

Kelly was not a casualty of racism. His victims were the casualties. Now these Black women must go forward with the scars he left them, and the rest of us must go forward knowing we didn't do enough to protect them.

In the wake of Kelly's conviction, King and Hampton—the two Black women who persisted in telling the R. Kelly story—spoke to one another on "CBS Mornings." Hampton discussed Kelly's conviction with an abiding hope.

"I want to believe that this means Black women and girls will be heard," she said, "but I don't want it to be dependent on a piece of media going viral."

LeBron is not the GOAT when it comes to vaccinations

LeBron James has always wanted to be the NBA's GOAT both on the court and off it. In both categories—as a player and as a savvy marketer and steward of his own brand—his only real competition is Michael Jordan.

There is, however, one major difference. In his heyday, Jordan scrupulously avoided politics. As he memorably said in 1990, when asked if he would endorse a Black Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate in North Carolina: "Republicans buy sneakers, too."

By contrast, James is the model of the modern athlete—lending his name to marketing campaigns (for, among other things, pizza, headphones and video games) and making personal statements on various political and cultural issues. Over the last few years, James has supported Black Lives Matter, squabbled with former President Donald Trump and Fox News anchors, and promoted voter registration.

Which is why James' position on COVID-19 vaccination has been as confounding as it is hypocritical. James announced last week that, yes, he's vaccinated. It was a contrast from five months ago, when he dodged the question, saying his status was a private issue between him and his family.

James' team, the Los Angeles Lakers, has vowed to be 100% vaccinated by the first game of the season on Oct. 19, while the league itself has a 90% vaccination rate. But those 10% are a vocal and visible minority—whose rationales include pleas for more time to conduct "research" on the vaccines. Their stance is cynically exploited by politicians who care little about the vaccine itself but agree with the players union's rejection of a league-imposed mandate.

Many of the comments of the NBA's vax skeptics can be dismissed as ignorance. James, however, is and should be held to a higher standard. Not only has he shown himself to be a cogent spokesman, but he has long championed the need to speak up for social justice and to be an inspiration for younger people—even as many of his peers stayed silent.

And what is the issue of the moment? COVID-19, which in its early stages was significantly more deadly in the Black community. Despite that fact, and though the racial vaccination gap is closing, African Americans still have the lowest vaccination rate in nearly every state.

By ROBERT A. GEORGE
Bloomberg Opinion

Robert A. George writes editorials on education and other policy issues for Bloomberg Opinion*. He was previously a member of the editorial boards of the* New York Daily News *and* New York Post.

Nonetheless, not only are there no James-led vaccination drives, he also demurs on criticizing his fellow players. "We're talking about individual bodies," he said last week. "We're not talking about something political or racism or police brutality. We're talking about people's bodies and well-being. I don't think I personally should get involved in what other people should do for their bodies and livelihoods."

Seriously?

Where has James been for the last two years? Has he not noticed that the pandemic became politicized? Does he think that the aforementioned higher COVID-19 death rate and lower vaccination rate among African Americans are unconnected to historical racism?

Quite the opposite. Black Americans have been victimized by medical treatment that is both poor and unethical. That combination has created a legitimate wariness that James could address.

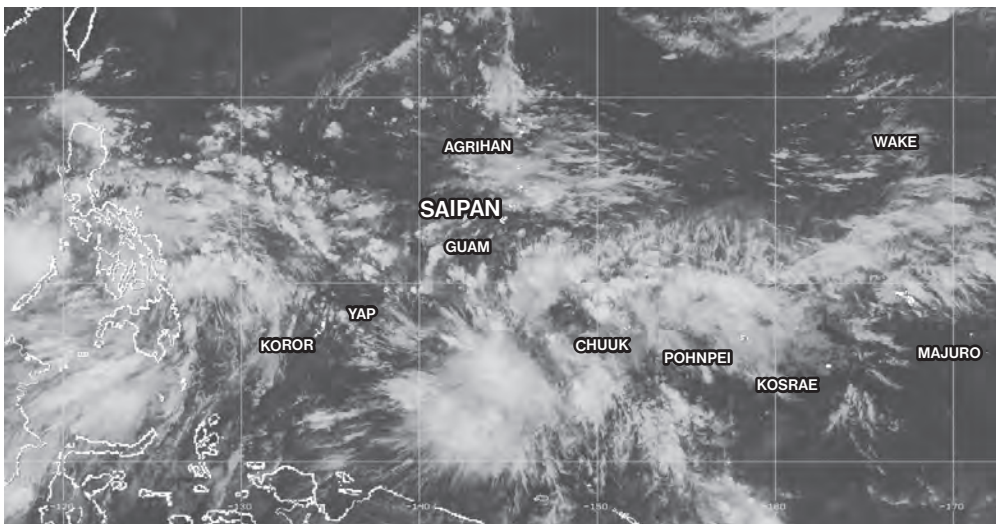
What makes James' stance especially puzzling is that, unlike last spring, he is now vaccinated. Why suddenly become reticent about a critical issue facing the Black community? James' stance stands in contrast to the clear statements in support of vaccination from retired NBA Hall of Famers such as Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Charles Barkley and Shaquille O'Neal.

James's legacy on the court is all but secure: If he is not the GOAT, he is one of a handful in contention for the title. Now he has the chance to use one of the largest media platforms on the planet to address a critical issue with life-or-death consequences, particularly in his community. If he declines to speak out, then that will be a kind of legacy as well.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph. Highs around 87. Chance of precipitation 40 percent.	Cloudy with numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 70s. Highs in the mid 80s. Chance of showers 60 percent.	Cloudy with numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 70s. Highs in the mid 80s. Chance of showers 60 percent.	Cloudy with numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 70s. Highs in the mid 80s. Chance of showers 60 percent.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 70s. Highs in the mid 80s. Chance of showers 50 percent.
87º / 77º	80º / 70º	80º / 70º	80º / 70º	80º / 70º



PICTURE TIME: 9:41 AM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2021

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Moderate trade winds and mostly cloudy skies prevail over the coastal waters. A disturbance near Chuuk is producing widely scattered showers over the region.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly cloudy	85 / 78 °F
Palau	Mostly cloudy	86 / 78 °F
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	87 / 77 °F
Chuuk	Light Rain	86 / 79 °F
Pohnpei	Cloudy	82 / 76 °F
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	87 / 80 °F
Majuro	Mostly Cloudy	86 / 80 °F

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Wednesday	6:07 AM	6:02 PM
Thursday	6:07 AM	6:02 PM
Friday	6:07 AM	6:01 PM
Saturday	6:07 AM	6:00 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	1:26 PM	1:30
Wednesday	-	2:14 PM	2:20
Thursday	-	3:05 PM	2:53
Friday	-	3:59 PM	3:40
Saturday	-	4:56 PM	4:33

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Fair	64 / 55 °F
Beijing	Fair	66 / 53 °F
Hong Kong	Fair	89 / 92 °F
Honolulu	Mostly Cloudy	77 / 74 °F
London	Rain	61 / 53 °F
Los Angeles	Clear	71 / 65 °F
Manila	Mostly Cloudy	88 / 79 °F
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	60 / 50 °F
Miami	Clear	81 / 76 °F
New York	Fair	72 / 68 °F
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	88 / 68 °F
Paris	Clear	65 / 54 °F
Busan	Partly Cloudy	83 / 71 °F
Rome	Fair	82 / 67 °F
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	68 / 67 °F
San Francisco	Clear	69 / 52 °F
Seoul	Cloudy	77 / 71 °F
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	85 / 68 °F
Washington, DC	Cloudy	74 / 68 °F

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
12:43 AM	Low Tide	0.74
6:14 AM	High Tide	1.83
12:48 PM	Low Tide	0.14
7:11 PM	High Tide	1.96

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

■ Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.

■ Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.

■ Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.

■ Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.

■ Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.

■ Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html

■ Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

■ Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.

■ Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

■ Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:

• Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.

• Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

• Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

• Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	6:45am	7:25am	1, 3, 6
UA117	9:45am	10:25am	2, 4, 5, 7

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

UA183	7:05pm	8:50pm	2, 5
UA183	7:25pm	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	6:45am	9:10pm	1, 3, 6 via Guam
UA117/183	9:45am	8:50pm	2, 5 via Guam
UA117/183	9:45am	9:10pm	4, 7 via Guam

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

7C3406	3:10PM	6:55PM	6
OZ6243	4:00PM	7:40PM	6

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	5:00am	5:41am	1, 3, 6
UA174	8:00am	8:41am	2, 4, 5, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	9:50pm	3:55am+1	2, 5
UA184	10:25pm	4:30am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA184/174	9:50pm	5:41am+1	2, 5 via Guam
UA184/174	10:25pm	5:41am+1	7 via Guam
UA184/174	10:25pm	8:41am+1	1, 3, 4, 6 via Guam

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3405	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
OZ6233	9:00AM	2:30PM	6

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Daily
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Daily
1303	1:30PM	2:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
1304	3:30PM	4:00PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Daily
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Daily
3103	1:30PM	3:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
3104	4:30PM	5:00PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1205	11:00	11:15	Daily
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
2105	11:30	11:45	Daily
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

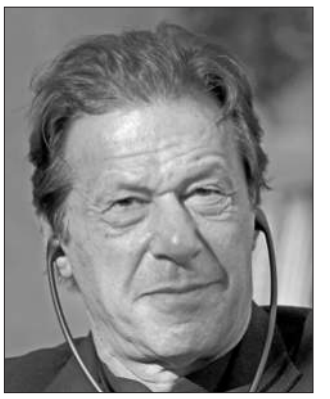
Business

Leaked records open 'Pandora's Box' of hidden financial wealth

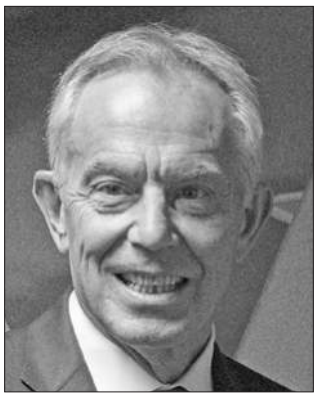
By MICHAEL LIEDTKE and JONATHAN MATTISE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Babis

Lasso


Khan

Abdullah II


Blair

Kenyatta

Putin

Hundreds of world leaders, powerful politicians, billionaires, celebrities, religious leaders and drug dealers have been hiding their investments in mansions, exclusive beachfront property, yachts and other assets for the past quarter-century, according to a review of nearly 12 million files obtained from 14 firms located around the world.

The report released Sunday by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists involved 600 journalists from 150 media outlets in 117 countries. It's being dubbed the "Pandora Papers" because the findings shed light on the previously hidden dealings of the elite and the corrupt, and how they have used offshore accounts to shield assets collectively worth trillions of dollars.

The more than 330 current and former politicians identified as beneficiaries of the secret accounts include Jordan's King Abdullah II, former U.K. Prime Minister Tony Blair, Czech Republic Prime Minister Andrej Babis, Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta, Ecuador's President Guillermo Lasso, and associates of both Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The billionaires called out in the report include Turkish construction mogul Erman Ilicak and Robert T. Brockman, the former CEO of software maker Reynolds & Reynolds.

Many of the accounts were designed to evade taxes and conceal assets for other shady reasons, according to the report.

"The new data leak must be a wake-up call," said Sven Giegold, a Green party lawmaker in the European Parliament. "Global tax evasion fuels global inequality. We need to expand and sharpen the countermeasures now."

Oxfam International, a British consortium of charities, applauded the Pandora Papers for exposing brazen examples of greed that deprived countries of tax revenue that could be used to finance programs and projects for the greater good.

"This is where our missing hospitals are," Oxfam said in a statement. "This is where the pay-packets sit of all the extra teachers and firefighters and public servants we need. Whenever a politician or business leader claims there is 'no money' to pay for climate damage and innovation, for more and better jobs, for a fair post-COVID recovery, for more overseas aid, they know where to look."

The Pandora Papers are a follow-up to a similar project released in 2016 called the "Panama Papers" compiled by the same journalistic group.

The latest bombshell is even more expansive, porting through nearly 3 terabytes of data—the equivalent of roughly 750,000 photos on a smartphone—leaked from 14 different service providers doing business in 38 different jurisdictions in the world. The records date back to the 1970s, but most of the files span from 1996 to 2020.

In contrast, the Panama Papers culled through 2.6 terabytes of data leaked by one now-defunct law firm called Mossack Fonseca that was located in the country that inspired that project's nickname.

The latest investigation dug into accounts registered in familiar offshore havens, including the British Virgin Islands, Seychelles, Hong Kong and Belize. But some of the secret accounts were also scattered around in trusts set up in the U.S., including 81 in South Dakota and 37 in Florida.

Some of the initial findings released Sunday painted a sordid picture of the prominent people involved.

For instance, the investigation found advisers helped King Abdullah II of Jordan set up at least three dozen shell companies from 1995 to 2017, helping the monarch buy 14 homes worth more than $106 million in the U.S. and the U.K. One was a $23 million California ocean-view property bought in 2017 through a British Virgin Islands company. The advisers were identified as an English accountant in Switzerland and lawyers in the British Virgin Islands.

There was no immediate comment from Jordan's Royal Palace.

The details are an embarrassing blow to Abdullah, whose government was engulfed in scandal this year when his half brother, former Crown Prince Hamzah, accused the "ruling system" of corruption and incompetence. The king claimed he was the victim of a "malicious plot," placed his half brother under house arrest and put two former close aides on trial.

U.K attorneys for Abdullah said he isn't required to pay taxes under his country's law and hasn't misused public funds, adding that there are security and privacy reasons for him to have holdings through offshore companies, according to the report. The attorneys also said most of the companies and properties are not connected to the king or no longer exist, though they declined to provide details.

Blair, U.K. prime minister from 1997 to 2007, became the owner of an $8.8 million Victorian building in 2017 by buying a British Virgin Islands company that held the property, and the building now hosts the law firm of his wife, Cherie Blair, according to the the investigation. The two bought the company from the family of Bahrain's industry and tourism minister, Zayed bin Rashid al-Zayani. Buying the company shares instead of the London building saved the Blairs more than $400,000 in property taxes, the investigation found.

The Blairs and the al-Zayanis both said they didn't initially know the other party was involved in the deal, the probe found. Cherie Blair said her husband wasn't involved in the purchase, which she said was meant to bring "the company and the building back into the U.K. tax and regulatory regime." She also said she did not want to own a British Virgin Islands company and that the "seller for their own purposes only wanted to sell the company," which is now closed.

Ex-Facebook manager alleges social network fed Capitol riot

NEW YORK (AP)—A data scientist who was revealed Sunday as the Facebook whistleblower says that whenever there was a conflict between the public good and what benefited the company, the social media giant would choose its own interests.

Frances Haugen was identified in a "60 Minutes" interview Sunday as the woman who anonymously filed complaints with federal law enforcement that the company's own research shows how it magnifies hate and misinformation.

Haugen, who worked at Google and Pinterest before joining Facebook in 2019, said she had asked to work in an area of the company that fights misinformation, since she lost a friend to online conspiracy theories.

"Facebook, over and over again, has shown it chooses profit over safety," she said. Haugen, who will testify before Congress this week, said she hopes that by coming forward the government will put regulations in place to govern the company's activities.

She said Facebook prematurely turned off safeguards designed to thwart misinformation and rabble rousing after Joe Biden defeated Donald Trump last year, alleging that contributed to the deadly Jan. 6 invasion of the U.S. Capitol.

ROBERT FORTUNATO/CBS NEWS/60 MINUTES VIA AP

In this Sept. 16, 2021, photo provided by CBS, Facebook whistleblower Frances Haugen talks with CBS' Scott Pelley on "60 Minutes," in an episode that aired Sunday, Oct. 3.

Post-election, the company dissolved a unit on civic integrity where she had been working, which Haugen said was the moment she realized "I don't trust that they're willing to actually invest what needs to be invested to keep Facebook from being dangerous."

At issue are algorithms that govern what shows up on users' news feeds, and how they favor hateful content. Haugen said a 2018 change to the content flow contributed to more divisiveness and ill will in a network ostensibly created to bring people closer together.

Despite the enmity that the new algorithms were feeding, Facebook found that they helped keep people coming back—a pattern that helped the Menlo Park, California, social media giant sell more of the digital ads that generate most of its advertising.

Facebook's annual revenue has more than doubled from $56 billion in 2018 to a projected $119 billion this year, based on the estimates of analysts surveyed by FactSet. Meanwhile, the company's market value has soared from $375 billion at the end of 2018 to nearly $1 trillion now.

Even before the full interview came out on Sunday, a top Facebook executive was deriding the whistleblower's allegations as "misleading."

"Social media has had a big impact on society in recent years, and Facebook is often a place where much of this debate plays out," Nick Clegg, the company's vice president of policy and public affairs wrote to Facebook employees in a memo sent Friday. "But what evidence there is simply does not support the idea that Facebook, or social media more generally, is the primary cause of polarization."

Nation

Cleanup contractors unload collected oil in plastic bags trying to stop further oil crude incursion into the Wetlands Talbert Marsh in Huntington Beach, Calif., Sunday, Oct. 3, 2021. AP

Crews race to limit damage from major oil spill in Calif.

HUNTINGTON BEACH, Calif. (AP)—Crews on the water and on shore worked feverishly Sunday to limit environmental damage from one of the largest oil spills in recent California history, caused by a suspected leak in an underwater pipeline that fouled the sands of famed Huntington Beach and could keep the beaches there closed for weeks or longer.

Booms were deployed on the ocean surface to try to contain the oil while divers sought to determine where and why the leak occurred. On land, there was a race to find animals harmed by the oil and to keep the spill from harming any more sensitive marshland.

An estimated 126,000 gallons (572,807 liters) of heavy crude leaked into the waters off Orange County starting late Friday or early Saturday, when boaters began reporting a sheen in the water, officials said. The pipeline and operations at three off-shore platforms owned by Houston-based Amplify Energy Corp. were shut down Saturday night, CEO Martyn Willsher said.

He said the 17.5-mile (28.16-kilometer) pipeline that is 80 to 100 feet (24 to 30 meters) below the surface was suctioned out so no more oil would spill as the location of the leak was being investigated.

Huntington Beach Mayor Kim Carr said the beaches of the community nicknamed "Surf City" could remain closed for weeks or even months. The oil created a miles-wide sheen in the ocean and washed ashore in sticky, black globules.

"In a year that has been filled with incredibly challenging issues, this oil spill constitutes one of the most devastating situations that our community has dealt with in decades," Carr said. "We are doing everything in our power to protect the health and safety of our residents, our visitors and our natural habitats."

Some birds and fish were caught in the muck and died, Orange County Supervisor Katrina Foley said. But by early afternoon Saturday the U.S. Coast Guard said there so far was just one ruddy duck that was covered in oil and receiving veterinary care. "Other reports of oiled wildlife are being investigated," the Coast Guard said in a statement.

Crews led by the Coast Guard-deployed skimmers laid some 3,700 feet (1,128 meters) of floating barriers known as booms to try to stop more oil from seeping into areas including Talbert Marsh, a 25-acre (10-hectare) wetland officials said.

A petroleum stench permeated the air throughout the area. "You get the taste in the mouth just from the vapors in the air," Foley said.

The oil will likely continue to wash up on the shore for several days and affect Newport Beach and other nearby communities, officials said.

The closure included all of Huntington Beach, from the city's north edge about 6 miles (9.6 kilometers) south to the Santa Ana River jetty. The shutdown came amid summerlike weather that would have brought big crowds to the wide strand for volleyball, swimming and surfing. Yellow caution tape was strung between lifeguard towers to keep people away.

Officials canceled the final day of the annual Pacific Air Show that typically draws tens of thousands of spectators to the city of about 200,000 residents south of Los Angeles. The show featured flyovers by the U.S. Navy Blue Angels and the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds.

The leaking pipeline connects to an oil production platform named Elly, which in turn is connected by a walkway to a drilling platform named Ellen. Those two platforms and another nearby platform are in federal waters.

Elly began operating in 1980 in an area called the Beta Field. Oil pulled from beneath the ocean and processed by Elly is taken by the pipeline to Long Beach.

Huntington Beach resident David Rapchun said he's worried about the impact of the spill on the beaches where he grew up as well as the local economy.

"For the amount of oil these things produce I don't think it's worth the risk," Rapchun said. He questioned whether drilling for oil was a wise idea along some of Southern California's most scenic beaches, noting the loss of the final day of the air show could deal a blow to the local economy.

"We need oil, but there's always a question: Do we need it there?" he said.

The spill comes three decades after a massive oil leak hit the same stretch of Orange County coast. On Feb. 7, 1990, the oil tanker American Trader ran over its anchor off Huntington Beach, spilling nearly 417,000 gallons (1.6 million liters) of crude. Fish and about 3,400 birds were killed.

In 2015, a ruptured pipeline north of Santa Barbara sent 143,000 gallons (541,313 liters) of crude oil gushing onto Refugio State Beach.

The area affected by the latest spill is home to threatened and endangered species, including a plump shorebird called the snowy plover, the California least tern and humpback whales.

COVID vaccine mandate takes effect for NYC teachers, staff

NEW YORK (AP)—New York City teachers and other school staff members are supposed to be vaccinated against COVID-19 when the bell rings Monday morning, in one of the first school district mandates in the country requiring employees to be inoculated against the coronavirus.

Mayor Bill de Blasio gave a final warning to the city's roughly 148,000 public school staffers on Friday, saying unvaccinated employees would be placed on unpaid leave and not be allowed to work this week. The city planned to bring in substitutes where needed.

Implementing the mandate smoothly may be a challenge for de Blasio, a Democrat who has boasted of the city's record of keeping school buildings open during most of the last school year when other districts went to all-remote instruction. New York City is not offering a remote option this year.

De Blasio said 90% of Department of Education employees had received at least one vaccine dose, including 93% of teachers and 98% of principals, as of Friday.

The vaccination mandate in the nation's largest school system does not include a test-out option, but does allow for medical and religious exemptions. It was supposed to go into effect last week but was delayed when a federal appeals court granted a temporary injunction. An appeals panel reversed that decision three days later.

A similar mandate is set to go into effect in Los Angeles on Oct. 15.

Mark Cannizzaro, president of the Council of Schools Supervisors and Administrators, said that despite a surge in vaccinations last week, some principals can't find enough staff to replace unvaccinated workers.

"While we're thankful that the percentage of vaccinated staff has increased systemwide since the deadline was extended, there are still too many school leaders that have been unable to find qualified substitutes for Monday," Cannizzaro said.

A spokesperson for the United Federation of Teachers said the city "needs to work hard to make sure enough vaccinated personnel are in place to safely open the schools Monday morning."

ACROSS THE NATION

George Floyd memorial statue in New York City defaced again

NEW YORK (AP)—A statue honoring George Floyd in New York City's Union Square Park was vandalized on Sunday, police said. According to police, a video showed an unidentified man on a skateboard throwing paint on the statue at approximately 10 a.m. then fleeing. Nearby statues of late Congressman John Lewis and Breonna Taylor, a Louisville, Kentucky, woman shot and killed by police last year, apparently weren't touched. Police have not released the video.

3rd victim dies after angry co-worker's rampage

DAVENPORT, Fla. (AP)—Authorities said Sunday a third victim has died following a violent attack where an angry electrician wielding a knife and baseball bat killed three co-workers and injured another at the Florida home they shared. Polk County Sheriff's officials said electrician Shaun Runyon got into the argument with his supervisor Friday, punching the man and fleeing the job site. He returned to the Davenport home he where he was temporarily living with his co-workers Saturday and beat one man to death while he slept, killed another man on the front porch and chased another victim into the street, beating him badly with a bat, Sheriff Grady Judd said. A fourth victim suffered critical injuries and later died at the hospital. Another man, his wife and their 7-year-old daughter escaped unharmed. Authorities did not release the identifies of the victims.

1 killed, 4 hurt in South Carolina Waffle House shooting

BISHOPVILLE, S.C. (AP)—One man was killed early Sunday in a shooting in the parking lot of a Waffle House near a South Carolina interstate that also injured four people inside the restaurant, Lee County Sheriff Daniel Simon said. The employee and three customers inside the restaurant at the U.S. Highway 15 exit on Interstate 20 in Bishopville are expected to survive the shooting around 4 a.m., the sheriff told The Associated Press. No arrests have been made, Simon said.

Asia

In this Jan. 3, 2018, file photo, a South Korean government official communicates with a North Korean officer during a phone call on the dedicated communications hotline at the border village of Panmunjom in Paju, South Korea. AP

Koreas talk on hotline restored after North Korea missile tests

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea restored dormant communication hotlines with South Korea in a small, fragile reconciliation step Monday in an apparent hard push to win outside concessions with a mix of conciliatory gestures and missile tests.

It's unclear how substantially the move will improve ties between the Koreas, as Pyongyang has a history of using the hotlines as a bargaining chip in dealings with Seoul. It often unilaterally suspended them and reactivates them when it needed better ties with Seoul.

North Korean liaison officers answered phone calls by their South Korean counterparts over a set of cross-border government and military channels for the first time in nearly two months.

"Long time no talk. We're very pleased because the communication channels have been restored like this. We hope that South-North relations will develop into a new level," a Seoul official said during a phone conversation with his North Korean counterpart over one channel, according to video released by South Korea's Unification Ministry. It didn't carry the voice of the North Korean.

On a separate military channel, the Koreas exchanged information about fishing activities along their disputed westerns sea boundary—where several inter-Korean bloody naval battles have occurred in previous years—to prevent similar skirmishes, Seoul's Defense Ministry said. A ministry statement said Seoul hopes the hotlines' restoration would help reduce tensions on the peninsula.

The hotlines are phone and fax channels that the Koreas use set up meetings, arrange border crossings and avoid accidental clashes. They've been largely dormant for more than a year as the North cut off them in protest of South Korean civilian leafleting campaigns. Communications were briefly revived for about two weeks this summer, but North Korea later refused to exchange messages again after Seoul staged annual military drills with Washington that Pyongyang views as an invasion rehearsal.

Japan Parliament to formally elect Kishida as new PM

Kishida

TOKYO (AP)—Japan's Cabinet and leader Yoshihide Suga resigned Monday, paving the way for Parliament to elect Fumio Kishida as the new prime minister, who will tasked with quickly tackling the pandemic and security challenges before an imminent national election.

Kishida replaced Suga as leader of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party last week and is certain to win the parliamentary vote for prime minister later Monday because the party and its coalition partner control both houses. He and his Cabinet will then be sworn in at a palace ceremony, replacing Suga's.

Suga leaves after only one year in office after seeing his support plunge over his government's handling of the pandemic and insistence on holding the Olympics as the virus spread.

A former foreign minister, Kishida, 64, used to be known as a dovish moderate but turned hawkish apparently to win over influential conservatives in the party. He is firmly entrenched in the conservative establishment and his victory in the party election was a choice for continuity and stability over change.

US raises concern as China flies warplanes south of Taiwan

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—The Chinese military flew 16 warplanes over waters south of Taiwan on Sunday as the United States expressed concern about what it called China's "provocative military action" near the self-governing island that China claims.

China sent 38 warplanes into the area on Friday and 39 aircraft on Saturday, the most in a single day since Taiwan began releasing reports on the flights in September 2020. The flights came in daytime and nighttime sorties, and it wasn't clear if China was planning more flights on Sunday night.

A statement from U.S. State Department spokesperson Ned Price warned that China's military activity near Taiwan risks miscalculation and undermines regional peace and stability.

"We urge Beijing to cease its military, diplomatic, and economic pressure and coercion against Taiwan," the statement said.

It added that the United States, Taiwan's biggest supplier of arms, would continue to help the government maintain a sufficient self-defense capability.

World

UN: Over 550 Europe-bound migrants intercepted in Libya

ABOARD GEO BARENTS (AP)—Libya's coast guard Sunday intercepted two boats carrying more than 550 Europe-bound migrants off the country's shore, the U.N. refugee agency said.

It marked the latest sea interceptions amid a surge of crossings and attempted crossings from the North African nation to European shores in recent months. It took place two days after a massive crackdown on migrants in a western Libyan town that resulted in the roundup of at least 4,000 migrants.

Libya has emerged as the dominant transit point for migrants fleeing war and poverty in Africa and the Middle East, hoping for a better life in Europe. The trend developed after the country was plunged into chaos following the 2011 NATO-backed uprising that ousted and killed longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi.

Human traffickers have benefited from the chaos in the oil-rich nation and smuggled migrants through the country's lengthy border with six nations. They then pack desperate migrants into ill-equipped rubber boats in risky voyages through the perilous Central Mediterranean Sea route.

The first wooden boat, with some 500 migrants on board, was disembarked early Sunday at an oil refinery point in the western town of Zawiya, a major launching point for migrants, according to the U.N. refugee agency, UNHCR. They include Sudanese, Somalis, Bengalis and Syrians, it said.

Later in the day, the UNHCR said the coast guard returned at least 56 migrants, including three children, to Tripoli's naval port, after their rubber boat broke at sea.

The migrants were likely taken to a detention center as Libyan authorities typically do with intercepted migrants.

On Saturday, the Libyan coast guard intercepted around 90 migrants, including eight women and three children, and returned them to Tripoli, the U.N. agency said. The coast guard also retrieved the bodies of two migrants, while 40 others remained missing at sea, the agency said.

There has been a spike in crossings and attempted crossings of the Mediterranean Sea with the goal of reaching European soil. So far this year some 44,000 people have reached Europe's shores by crossing the Central Mediterranean from Tunisia and Libya.

Firefighters work on the site of a plane crash, in San Donato Milanese suburb of Milan, Italy, Sunday, Oct. 3, 2021. AP

Plane crashes into building near Milan; all 8 aboard die

ROME (AP)—A small, single-engine plane carrying six passengers and two crew crashed Sunday into a vacant two-story office building in a Milan suburb, and authorities said all eight people aboard died.

Investigators opened a probe into what caused the private plane to crash shortly after takeoff from Milan's Linate Airport en route to Olbia Airport on the Italian island of Sardinia. A thick column of dark smoke rose from the crash site and was visible for kilometers. Several parked cars nearby went up in flames.

Firefighters tweeted that no one else but those on board were hurt in the early afternoon crash near a subway station in San Donato Milanese, a small town near Milan.

Milan Prosecutor Tiziana Siciliano told reporters at the scene that the plane was proceeding on its flight until "a certain point, then an anomaly appeared on the radar screen and it plunged," striking the building's roof.

Control tower officials reported the anomaly, she said, but further details on that weren't immediately given.

The prosecutor said the plane didn't send out any alarm. It was too early to cite any possible cause for the crash, Siciliano said, adding that the flight recorder has been retrieved.

Russia hits record number of daily COVID-19 deaths

MOSCOW (AP)—Russia on Sunday reported a record daily death toll from COVID-19, the fifth time in a week that deaths have hit a new high.

The national coronavirus task force said 890 deaths were recorded over the past day, exceeding the 887 reported on Friday. The task force also said the number of new infections in the past day was the second-highest of the year at 25,769.

Overall, Russia, a nation of 146 million people, has Europe's highest death toll from the pandemic, nearly 210,000 people.

Yet despite the country's persistent rise in daily deaths and new cases, Russian officials say there are no plans to impose a lockdown. Mask-wearing regulations are in place but are loosely enforced.

Moscow briefly tried during the summer to require proof of vaccination or a negative PCR test for indoor customers at restaurants and bars, but abandoned the program after business owners complained of reduced revenues.

Overdrive

The 2022 Polestar 2 Single Motor EV costs less, but is it worth it?

By LARRY PRINTZ
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

What's in a name? It depends.

Consider Polestar. It was once the name of Volvo's high-performance brand. Established in 1996, Polestar's original mission was to build Volvo race cars for the Swedish Touring Car Championship. These days, it's Volvo's EV marque, one that builds cars that the company describes as pure, minimalistic, engineering-focused and sustainable. Both Volvo and Polestar are owned lock, stock and barrel by the Geely Auto Group, a Chinese automaker that includes brands you may not have heard of, including Zeekr, Geely and Lynk, along with some that you might have, like Proton and Lotus.

Polestar's U.S. headquarters are in New Jersey, its corporate HQ in Gothenburg, Sweden. But its vehicles are built in China. Currently, Polestar is sold through 30 dealerships, which the company calls Polestar Spaces, although buyers can carry out most of their purchase online; the nearest Polestar Space delivers the vehicle.

The company's first model was a limited-edition, high-performance plug-in hybrid, the Polestar 1. Having arrived in 2019, it is Polestar's only gas-powered automobile. The Polestar 2 Dual Motor arrived roughly a year later, an all-electric five-door hatchback powered by two electric motors, one on each axle, allowing for all-wheel drive. But come December, you'll be able to buy a new Single Motor model, with front-wheel drive and a $4,000 lower starting price—and it might just be the better deal.

The Polestar 2 employs Volvo's CMA architecture that underpins the Volvo S40 sedan and XC40 crossover, and its short, stocky shape is reminiscent of its Scandinavian sibling, including its "Thor's Hammer" headlight design. The look is upscale and sporty, possessing a distinctive identity.

Climb inside, and you'll find a cabin that doesn't borrow much from Volvo, aside from the occasional piece of switchgear. Instead, you'll find a distinctive recycled postmodern, man-made vegan chic in either black or gray, unless you opt for the carnivore interior, aka leather, which comes in lighter shades. Time spent in the vegan interior revealed the seats to be comfortable and supportive, with generous legroom in the first row and minimal legroom in the second row as long as those in front are somewhat accommodating. Headroom is adequate. The Polestar 2's high beltline lends the cabin a cocoon-like feeling, with limited rear visibility due to the rear window's odd shape and the large c-pillar.

The cargo area is spacious, and has additional space under the load floor. There's also room for small items or a briefcase in the front trunk.

The cabin' s minimalist design works fairly well, with one glaring exception: the center console. There's one cupholder in the open, and the second is nestled inside the center console bin. If you use both, you can't use the bin for storage. And when the center console bin lid is closed, you can slide it forward, which covers both, rendering them useless. The map pockets are not shaped to accept bottles. So, make sure you're hydrated before you get behind the wheel.

Once you do, you'll find there's a perceptible performance difference between the Single Motor model, producing 231 horsepower and 243 pound-feet of torque with a 265-mile range, and the Dual Motor model generating 408 horsepower and 487 pound-feet of torque with 249 miles of range. This is especially so above 50 mph. Dual Motor models have a hint of rear-drive bias that allows you to get the tail to tango, should you desire. Then there's the extra power, although it comes at the expense of 16 miles of range. In comparison, the Single Motor model is front-wheel drive, so its persona is a bit more straight-laced, but its wider rear tires tame the front-drive Polestar 2's understeer in corners.

Regardless of which one you buy, you'll find the cabin to be extraordinarily quiet, among the quietest you'll encounter in any car. And wait till you feel its potent off-the-line thrust. All Polestar 2s have steering effort that can be adjusted, transforming steering feel from effortless to weighty. Regenerative braking effort can also be adjusted. Uniquely, the car has no starter button. Instead, you merely climb in the car with the key fob in your pocket and put your foot on the brake. The car starts. Sweet.

Of course, if you've never experienced an EV, the Polestar is a good place to start. Its stocky, vegan funkiness and peppy, agile demeanor will make you wonder why you drove a gasoline-powered car for all of those years. And now, it's even more affordable. But Polestar isn't sitting still, as more Polestar EVs are due in 2022, including the Polestar 3 SUV.

NUTS & BOLTS

2022 Polestar 2 Single Motor

- **Base price:** $45,900
- **Engine:** AC synchronous, permanent magnet motor
- **Horsepower/Torque:** 231/243 pound-feet
- **Range:** Estimated 265 miles
- **Length/Width/Height:** 181.3/78.1/58.2 inches
- **Ground clearance:** 6 inches
- **Cargo capacity:** 14.3-38.7 cubic feet (rear); 1.2 cubic feet (front)
- **Towing capacity:** 2,000 pounds

The Polestar 2 employs Volvo's CMA architecture that underpins the Volvo S40 sedan and XC40 crossover.
POLESTAR/TNS

Beware of counterfeit auto parts

Q I have a 2010 Honda Accord with 110,000 miles on it. I am going to replace the spark plugs. The recommended iridium spark plugs, NGK or Denso, are very expensive. Some online prices for the same spark plug are almost half the cost. There are numerous articles on the internet warning of fake spark plugs. Are these cheap spark plugs OK to use, and how can one tell the difference between the fake spark plugs and the real ones?

A Cheap auto parts are often counterfeit. Not only may they fail to work properly, buying counterfeit parts harms the true manufacturers' income and reputation. It is nearly impossible to tell the difference by simply looking at the item or the box so buy your auto parts from a reputable parts store, which you can also do online.

Q I have a 2009 Toyota Rav4 with 166,000 miles on it. My independent garage of 25+ years closed. I went to a highly recommended shop. They changed the oil but couldn't get the filter off. They said that they would have to break something (housing?) to get it off. They did not have the new parts. They said I could drive it another 5,000 miles with the old filter and when I come back, they will order the new parts ahead of time to repair and replace the filter. I am nervous about driving with the old filter for 5,000 more miles. Should I just go to another shop and start over again?

A I am unclear on what part they need, but it is not uncommon for the cap to need replacement. If so, they are readily available from most auto parts stores as well as a Toyota dealer. As for driving another 5,000 miles, you should be fine. But chances are that the shop will locate a new part well before that. You should try another shop as soon as convenient. Maybe they will be able to replace your filter. No need to get another oil change, though.

Q Recently we were driving our 2010 Hyundai Tucson in stop-and-go traffic. Each time that we stopped, the air coming out the register in the dashboard while cool was not as cool as it usually is. When traffic started moving, at 30 mph the air came out much cooler. I looked through the grill at the condenser and it was heavily caked with dirt and dead bugs. Using a pressure nozzle, I rinsed the condenser thoroughly and the output air temperature came down. Saved a trip to the shop.

MOTORMOUTH

By BOB WEBER
Tribune News Service

Bob Weber is a writer and mechanic who became an ASE-certified Master Automobile Technician in 1976. Send questions along with name and town to motormouth.tribune@gmail.com.

A Good catch and often overlooked by motorists living in dusty areas. Not only is the airflow across the A/C condenser blocked, but the radiator sitting behind it suffers too.

Q I have a 2011 Ford Focus and I am having a hard time locating the cabin air filter. Does it have one or not? It has never been changed and my A/C doesn't blow very cold. Do you think a bad cabin filter could be the cause?

A If you have normal airflow from the vents when you are not using the air conditioner, the cabin air filter is not causing a restriction. The filter on the 2011-2018 Focus is located on the left side of the passenger foot well. You must first remove a panel below the glove box to access the cover for the filter. It is not a simple job.

Life & Style

Reaching pre-pandemic levels, 'Venom' debuts with $90.1M

NEW YORK (AP)—Pandemic moviegoing is finally starting to look like pre-pandemic moviegoing. Sony Pictures' Marvel sequel "Venom: Let There Be Carnage" blew away expectations to debut with $90.1 million in ticket sales, making it easily the best opening of the pandemic, according to studio estimates Sunday.

"Venom: Let There Be Carnage" had been forecast to open with closer to half that total. But the film, which is playing exclusively in theaters, exceeded even the debut of the 2018 original. "Venom," the "Spider-Man" offshoot that introduced Tom Hardy's parasitic alien symbiote, launched with $80.3 million. Only 2019's "Joker" ($96.2 million) has ever opened bigger in October.

This image released by Sony Pictures Entertainment shows a scene from "Venom: Let There Be Carnage."

The result—along with robust international sales for the James Bond film "No Time to Die"—constituted the best news for movie theaters in more than 18 months.

"With apologies to Mr. Twain: The death of movies has been greatly exaggerated," Tom Rothman, chairman and chief executive of Sony Pictures' Motion Picture Group, said in a statement.

Both "Let There Be Carnage" and MGM's "No Time to Die" had originally been set to open last year. Believing the best box-office return would happen with an exclusive release in theaters, both studios (neither of which has a major streaming platform) held out for better moviegoing conditions. Over the weekend, their wait was rewarded.

"No Time to Die," which opens in North America on Friday, launched with $119.1 million in 54 overseas markets. The pace, according to MGM and Universal Pictures (which has many international rights), was roughly in line with the opening for "Skyfall." Following its London premiere last week, "No Time to Die"—the 25th Bond film and Daniel Craig's last outing as the super spy—grossed $25.6 million in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Its $11.4 million on Saturday there was the best box office day for any Bond film on its home turf.

Before "Let There Be Carnage," the top pandemic openings had been the Walt Disney's "Black Widow" ($80 million), "Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings" ($75 million) and Universal Pictures' "Fast and Furious" sequel "F9" ($70 million). "Black Widow" launched simultaneously in homes, prompting a lawsuit from star Scarlett Johansson which was settled last week. "Shang-Chi," "F9" and "Let There Be Carnage" debuted only in theaters.

"Films can only become cultural when people see them together on the biggest, best screens and have that experience as a group," said Josh Greenstein, president of Sony Motion Pictures Group. "You can't replicate that by yourself at home."

After numerous delays, Sony in the end actually moved up the release of the "Venom" sequel, directed by Andy Serkis and co-starring Woody Harrelson as the Venom foe Carnage, by two weeks. Overseas, it also added $13.8 million in Russia.

"We saw the health of 'Shang-Chi' and it gave us confidence that when the product is there, the box office will return," said Adrian Smith, Sony's distribution chief. "It's very validating to see the demand for theatricality."

1. **"Venom: Let There Be Carnage,"** $90.1 million
2. **"The Addams Family 2,"** $18 million
3. **"Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings,"** $6 million
4. **"The Many Saints of Newark,"** $5 million
5. **"Dear Evan Hansen,"** $2.5 million
6. **"Free Guy,"** $2.28 million
7. **"Candyman,"** $1.2 million
8. **"Jungle Cruise,"** $680,000
9. **"The Jesus Music,"** $560,000
10. **"Titane,"** $516,000

Not everything is bouncing back in theaters and quickly as Marvel movies and the biggest brand names. Family moviegoing is still sluggish, as are ticket sales at art house theaters. Older audiences and families with unvaccinated children have been more cautious.

"The Addams Family 2," an animated sequel from MGM and United Artists Releasing, opened with $18 million despite terrible reviews (27% fresh on Rotten Tomatoes) from critics. The film, a sequel to the 2019 cartoon reboot, was launched simultaneously on video-on-demand.

"The Many Saints of Newark," the long-in-coming prequel to "The Sopranos," flopped. The film, co-written by "Sopranos" creator David Chase and set decades before the seminal HBO series, opened with $5 million. The film, like all Warner Bros. releases in 2021, was also streaming on HBO Max for subscribers—a practice some filmmakers, including Chase, have decried. The studio has pledged to return to exclusive theatrical windows in 2022.

Julia Ducournau's "Titane," the Palme d'Or winner at the Cannes Film Festival this summer, also struggled to make a dent in theaters. The film, a wild odyssey about a serial-killing woman with a unique bond to automobiles, grossed about $516,000 in 562 theaters for Neon.

But spectacle movies, particularly those that appeal especially to younger males, have been driving an even larger share of moviegoing this year. Marvel's "Shang-Chi," the studio's first film led by an Asian superhero, has dominated the last month in theaters. It had previously been the No. 1 film for four consecutive weeks. "Shang-Chi" this weekend became the first film to pass $200 million domestically, with a cumulative haul of $206.1 million in the U.S. and Canada, and $386.9 million globally

Large format screens are also helping to drive the recovery. With $30 million in global sales, IMAX had its best October weekend ever. Megan Colligan, president of IMAX Entertainment, called it proof of "what today's box office is capable of."

"The perception may be that these films are overperforming," Colligan said, "but the reality is that many people are underestimating just how excited global consumers are to get back to the movies."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Comscore. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

Family meals repeatedly cause digestion issues

DEAR ABBY: My husband was instructed by his doctor to avoid dairy due to a chronic condition that negatively impacts his daily life. Around the same time, his father and his girlfriend began implementing the keto diet into their lifestyle. We are often invited to their home for game night. She takes pride in preparing a home-cooked meal for everyone. We've been open about my husband's dietary restrictions, but dairy remains a heavily used ingredient in these dishes, and it is often hidden or disguised by a different name depending on its preparation.

She seems to think that because my husband isn't "allergic" to dairy, it's OK for him to consume it. However, because we've both changed our diets to exclude dairy, these visits often end in stomach pains and, for him, other discomforts that may last for days. We enjoy the game nights, but fear a more direct approach will hurt our newfound relationship with his father's soon-to-be bride. What would you suggest?

RESTRICTED IN ARIZONA

DEAR RESTRICTED: I suggest you be VERY direct (and descriptive) with your father-in-law and his soon-to-be fiancee about the effect that dairy products have on your husband! Pain for days? That's terrible. And if your husband's dietary restrictions can't be accommodated, either eat beforehand or bring your own food to the gathering.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am 55 and have waited for the right man. The only regret I have is that I didn't find him earlier because I went into early menopause at 33. I wish my values weren't so strict, but I have met someone who seems to respect my desire to wait until marriage.

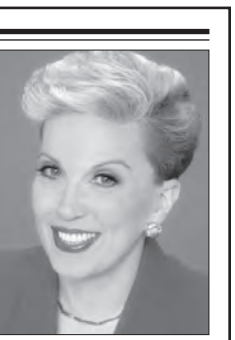
The problem is our relationship has many negatives. We live two hours apart. He loves to gamble. I am educated, and he has a learning disability. Most of the time, I feel like I am in fourth place in his life behind his family, his friends and his gambling. I don't feel he really wants to be with me. I sometimes wonder if it's because of the sex thing. However, I don't want a relationship based on sex. I want him to want to spend his time with me, and I want us to become one and I don't see it happening. I also don't believe he can budget for anything more than paying his bills and gambling the rest of his money.

It doesn't seem like he would choose to be with me rather than with his friends and family. Am I wanting too much? I'm afraid what he is after is security, not a loving relationship where you become one in life.

WAITING FOR MR. RIGHT

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR WAITING: I don't think you want too much. What you are searching for is what most people want—a life partner who is considerate, loving and whose values are close to their own. Because you suspect this person is after financial security, please listen to your gut. If you really believe you are four notches down on his list of priorities, do not settle. End this "romance" now.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

HI, HOBBES!
GOOD HEAVENS, WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
MOM SAID IF I KEEP MAKING THIS FACE, IT WILL FREEZE LIKE THIS FOREVER!
YOU REALLY THINK SO?
IT'S WORTH A TRY...
I'LL BET MY FEATURES ARE HARDENING ALREADY.
I ALWAYS LIKED GARGOYLES.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

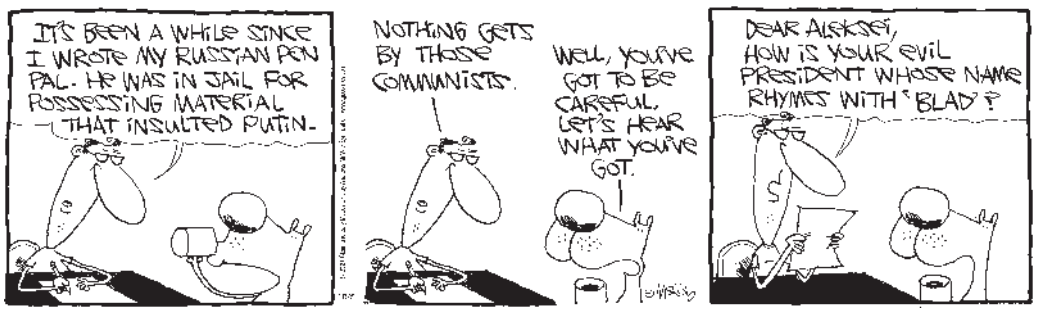
GARFIELD, I DECIDED I SHOULD READ MORE!
"FORTIFIED WITH ESSENTIAL VITAMINS AND MINERALS..."
THAT'S ENOUGH FOR TODAY. MY HEAD HURTS
TOMORROW, WE READ A MILK CARTON!
JIM DAVIS 10-5

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I WROTE MY RUSSIAN PEN PAL. HE WAS IN JAIL FOR POSSESSING MATERIAL THAT INSULTED PUTIN.
NOTHING GETS BY THOSE COMMUNISTS.
WELL, YOU'VE GOT TO BE CAREFUL. LET'S HEAR WHAT YOU'VE GOT.
DEAR ALEKSEI, HOW IS YOUR EVIL PRESIDENT WHOSE NAME RHYMES WITH "BLAD"?

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Cattle group
5 ACLU issues
8 Merit badge holder
12 Done with
13 Mouths (Lat.)
14 Twice cuatro
15 Pedestal
16 "Titanic" star Leonardo
18 Toronto's province
20 Wheat bundle
21 Calendar abbr.
22 Enjoy Vail
23 Rap star West
26 Actress Dawson
30 Jr.'s son
31 Society newcomer
32 Glacial
33 Rice in a risotto recipe
36 Student
38 Fix illegally
39 Corn core
40 Put into law
43 "Ta-ta!"
47 Casanova
49 Boulder
50 Spumante source
51 Scratch the surface
52 And others (Lat.)
53 Honey drink
54 Turf
55 Actress Merrill

DOWN
1 Vagrant
2 Author Hunter
3 Take it easy
4 So-o-o-o attractive
5 "The Thinker" sculptor
6 Half a sextet
7 Pouch
8 Legendary Loren
9 Land measure
10 Actor LaBeouf
11 Horse-shoe site
17 Requests
19 Caviar
22 Cry
23 Sportage maker
24 Football filler
25 Pen tip
26 — Speed-wagon
27 Shred
28 Here, to Henri
29 Popeye's Olive
31 Use a shovel
34 Corsage flower
35 Ms. Hayworth
36 "Ulalume" writer
37 Used a modern car service
39 Triad, in music
40 Biblical kingdom
41 Proboscis
42 "— girl!"
43 Pisa farewell
44 Indian flat-bread
45 Optimist's credo
46 Tex. neighbor
48 Apt. divisions

Solution time: 22 mins.

D	R	A	G	■	B	A	G	■	A	J	A	R
R	U	B	Y	■	A	B	A	■	R	O	B	F
A	I	U	M	■	R	U	S	T	B	F	.	T
W	F	T	B	A	G	■	P	O	O	P	F	D
■	■	■	A	L	A	I	■	P	R	E	■	■
D	U	S	T	B	I	N	S	■	S	S	N	S
A	N	I	■	A	N	C	I	E	■	C	U	T
N	I	G	H	■	S	U	S	T	A	I	N	S
■	■	■	H	E	R	■	S	T	E	T	■	■
■	N	T	A	K	E	■	E	S	T	E	E	M
C	U	S	T	O	M	E	R	■	A	L	G	A
A	D	E	E	■	M	E	.	■	C	L	A	P
N	E	E	D	■	A	N	Y	■	K	E	D	S

Yesterday's answer 10-5

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12				■	13			■	14			
15				■	16			17				
18				19			■	20				
■	■	■	21			■	22			■	■	■
23	24	25			■	26				27	28	29
30			■	■	31			■	■	32		
33			34	35			■	36	37			
■	■	■	38			■	39			■	■	■
40	41	42			■	43				44	45	46
47					48			■	49			
50				■	51				52			
53					54				55			

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kara Royster, 28; Jesse Eisenberg, 38; Scott Weinger, 46; Kate Winslet, 46.

Happy Birthday: A compassionate approach to life, love and how you treat others will offer peace of mind and help you resolve matters that have been standing in your way. You may not please everyone with the decisions you make, but being true to yourself will be the passage to what's best for you. Embrace the future with courage and an open mind. Your numbers are 6, 18, 24, 27, 31, 35, 48.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Put everything in its place, and carry on until you reach your destination. Focus on your relationships with people who can help you get ahead. An unexpected opportunity will tweak your imagination. Consider the pros and cons before making a move. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Getting along with others will be necessary. Be a good listener, and show support for those who share your beliefs. Don't feel you need to change to fit in; be yourself, and you'll attract like-minded people. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Be objective, open and honest. Present the best point of view you can concisely, and people will listen. Mix business with pleasure, and friendships will sprout that will encourage a bright future, along with plenty of opportunities. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Problems will develop if you are possessive or moody. Pay attention to how you look, and consider what you want to do before sharing with others. Be sure your plan is doable before you make promises. ✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Think about the message you want to send. Consider how someone you care about will feel or react if you are abrupt or pushy. A kind word will help you gain support; a demand will cause friction. Choose the path of least resistance. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Use your imagination, and you will come up with a plan that will help you achieve your goal. Run your ideas by those who may be affected by the decisions you make. Deal with matters upfront. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Express your thoughts and feelings, and follow through with your plans. Offer what you can to those in need, and participate in events that are similar in goals to your own. Keep your life and what's going on around you in perspective. Don't overreact. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Keep things simple and under control. Too much of anything will lead to trouble. Curb bad habits and enforce a routine, diet and lifestyle that will keep you in shape and healthy. Follow the path that leads to personal growth. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Be demonstrative, express your thoughts and feelings, and do your best to care for matters that can determine your fate professionally. Take the initiative, and believe in your ability to outmaneuver any competition that comes your way. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Be cautious when dealing with a friend, relative or colleague. Don't share personal information or make promises that might put you in a tight spot. Make a change at home that will ease stress. Avoid indulgent behavior. ✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Concentrate on what's important to you. A financial deal looks promising. Look for an investment that is solid and doesn't require you to go into debt. Moderation and intelligence will lead to prosperity. Be honest about how you feel. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Pay attention to the way you present yourself to others. Update your image, and take a unique approach to friendship, life and romance. Say what's on your mind, and stick to the rules and regulations. Live frugally and avoid overindulgence. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are expressive, persistent and compassionate. You are original and thoughtful.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

9	1		3		5			
8		3				1	9	
	5					7		
7			4					2
3					2			8
	2					3		
	8	1				6		9
			2		9		5	4

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/05

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

7	6	5	9	4	2	8	3	1
1	9	8	7	3	5	4	6	2
3	4	2	8	1	6	7	9	5
6	3	7	5	2	9	1	8	4
2	1	4	3	6	8	5	7	9
5	8	9	1	7	4	6	2	3
8	2	6	4	9	1	3	5	7
4	5	3	2	8	7	9	1	6
9	7	1	6	5	3	2	4	8

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

RON POPEIL (1935-2021) **Solution: 5 letters**

O	E	M	A	C	I	T	A	M	O	P	O	H	C	W
S	T	E	G	D	A	G	K	I	N	G	R	U	O	O
D	A	E	R	O	M	S	E	R	E	H	T	H	G	A
L	P	O	P	P	R	O	(D)	U	C	T	S	A	S	F
A	E	B	R	S	A	E	D	(I)	E	L	C	I	O	L
N	D	U	O	H	C	N	A	R	(A)	I	L	R	N	O
O	V	T	F	M	E	N	S	I	H	(L)	G	E	E	G
R	A	W	I	C	A	L	C	C	L	E	R	G	S	N
O	L	A	T	T	M	R	O	O	T	U	A	A	F	I
T	E	I	S	A	E	N	I	I	A	T	J	R	E	T
N	N	T	R	M	T	S	T	L	S	Q	Y	I	E	E
E	T	T	O	E	J	E	R	K	Y	E	B	M	B	K
V	I	F	S	A	M	U	E	L	R	N	I	B	O	R
N	N	S	H	A	N	N	O	N	S	D	R	A	W	A
I	A	L	E	M	A	P	I	T	C	H	M	A	N	M

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Awards, BBQ, Beef, But Wait, Cameo, Chicago, Chop-O-Matic, Contessa, Cutters, Dial, Eloise, Forget It, Fryer, Gadgets, Golf, Ideas, Infomercials, Inventor, Jerky, Julia, King, Lauren, Lisa, Marilyn, Marketing, Martin, Mirage, Pamela, Pitchman, Products, Profits, Ranch, Robin, Ronald, Samuel, Sell, Set It, Shannon, Show, Stage, Taped, There's More, Valentina

Yesterday's Answer: Magical

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 47 through 62** order on line at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

Brady does enough for Bucs to win his New England return

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP) — Tom Brady rallied the Tampa Bay Buccaneers to a 19-17 victory over the Patriots on a rainy Sunday night in his return to New England, with Ryan Succop hitting the winning 48-yard field goal late in the fourth quarter.

Brady was 22 of 43 for 269 yards with no touchdowns, but engineered the fourth-quarter drive to beat his former team. Ronald Jones added an 8-yard scoring run for defending Super Bowl champion Tampa Bay (3-1).

Brady broke Drew Brees' NFL career passing yardage record and became the fourth quarterback with victories against all 32 NFL teams, joining Brees, Brett Favre and Peyton Manning.

New England had a chance to win, but Nick Folk's 56-yard field-goal try hit the left upright with less than a minute to play. The Patriots are 1-3 for the first time since 2001.

Patriots rookie Mac Jones finished 31 of 40 for 275 yards and two touchdowns.

Giants 27, Saints 21, OT

In New Orleans, Saquon Barkley ran for a 6-yard touchdown in overtime after Daniel Jones passed for a career-high 402 yards, and New York rallied past New Orleans for its first win of the season.

The Saints, playing in New Orleans for the first time since Hurricane Ida struck on Aug. 29, led 21-10 in the fourth quarter before Jones and Barkley combined for a 54-yard touchdown pass that ignited the Giants' comeback.

Jones ran for a 2-point conversion to make it 21-18, then led the Giants to Graham Gano's tying, 48-yard field goal with 31 seconds left in regulation.

After New York won the coin toss to start the extra period, Jones completed five passes for 67 yards to set up Barkley's winning score, giving the Giants (1-3) a last-play victory for a change after they'd lost on game-ending field goals the previous two weeks.

Jets 27, Titans 24, OT

In East Rutherford, N.J., Matt Ammendola kicked a 22-yard field goal in overtime, and then Randy Bullock was wide left on a potential tying 49-yarder with 15 seconds left to give New York its first victory.

After the Jets took the lead in the extra period but failed to seal it with a touchdown despite getting to the 1-yard line, Ryan Tannehill — playing without injured receivers Julio Jones and A.J. Brown — marched the Titans downfield with the help of two fourth-down conversions.

On second-and-5 from the Jets 26, Anthony Firkser couldn't hold onto a pass from Tannehill and then the Titans took a delay of game penalty. Tannehill threw incomplete to Jeremy McNichols, setting up the tying kick for Bullock — but the ball sailed wide of the left upright and sent the Jets (1-3) into a wild celebration.

Chiefs 42, Eagles 30

In Philadelphia, Patrick Mahomes threw five touchdown passes three different ways, including three to Tyreek Hill, and Kansas City beat Philadelphia.

Andy Reid returned to Philadelphia and earned his 100th career win with the Chiefs, becoming the first coach in NFL history to win 100 games with two teams. Reid's 140 victories with the Eagles are the most in franchise history.

Jalen Hurts threw for a career-high 387 yards and two TDs but Philadelphia (1-3) couldn't keep up with Kansas City's high-powered offense. The Eagles had three touchdowns negated by penalty and settled for field goals three times inside the red zone.

Cardinals 37, Rams 20

In Inglewood, Calif., Kyler Murray passed for 268 yards and two touchdowns and ran for 39 more yards in a virtuoso performance, and Arizona extended its longest unbeaten start since 2012 with a victory over Los Angeles.

A.J. Green caught a 41-yard TD pass, Chase Edmonds ran for 120 yards and James Conner rushed for two short scores for Arizona (4-0), which finally beat Sean McVay for the first time in nine tries.

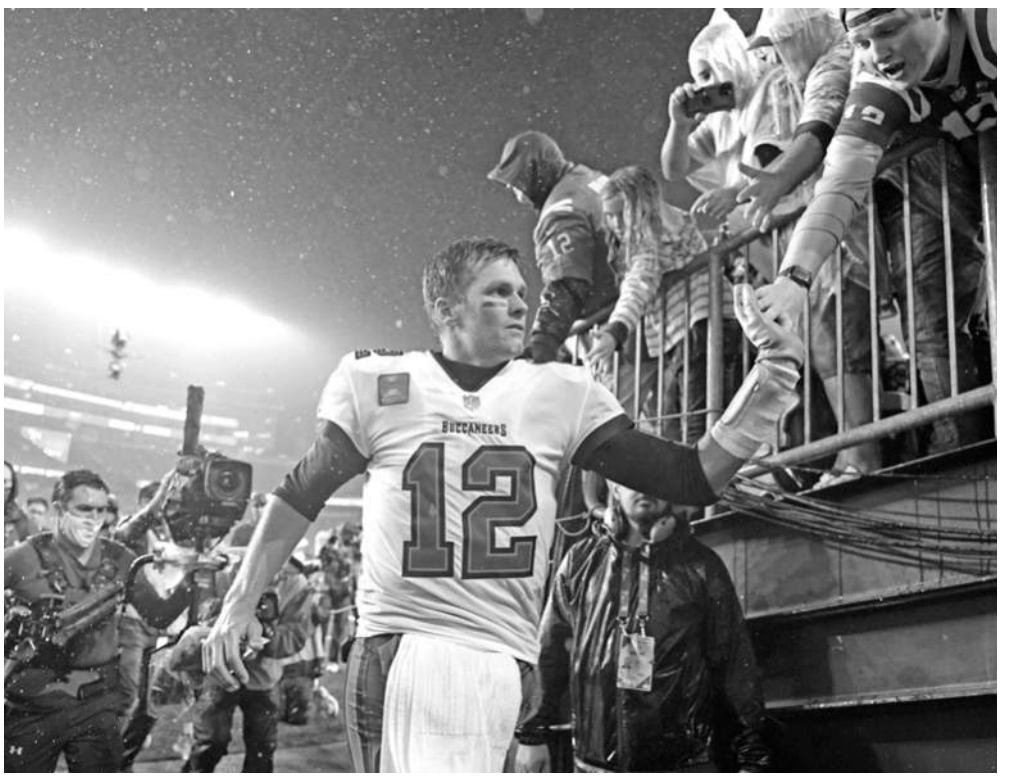
Kliff Kingsbury's Cards did it with style, lighting up the Rams' defense for 465 total yards and scoring touchdowns after two early takeaways to affirm their arrival as a contender in the NFC West and beyond despite playing three of their first four games on the road.

Seahawks 28, 49ers 21

In Santa Clara, Calif., Russell Wilson overcame a shaky start to throw for two touchdowns and run for a third and Seattle rebounded from back-to-back losses by beating San Francisco.

The Seahawks (2-2) went three-and-out on their first five drives of the game and appeared in danger of their first three-game losing streak in a season in nine seasons with Wilson at quarterback.

But he connected on a 12-yard TD pass to DK Metcalf late in the first half and then produced two touchdowns in a span of less than a minute in the third quarter with a 16-yard run and 13-yard pass to Freddie Swain around a fumbled kickoff by Trenton Cannon.



AP

Tampa Bay Buccaneers quarterback Tom Brady (12) is congratulated by fans after defeating the New England Patriots 19-17 in an NFL football game, Sunday, Oct. 3, 2021, in Foxborough, Mass.

Ravens 23, Broncos 7

In Denver, Lamar Jackson threw for 316 yards, including a 49-yard touchdown pass to a diving Marquis Brown, and Baltimore used a relentless defense to swat Denver from the ranks of the unbeaten.

The Ravens (3-1) won their third consecutive game following an overtime loss to Las Vegas in the opener. They were in danger of coming up just short of tying the Steelers' NFL record for consecutive games with at least 100 yards rushing before Baltimore cornerback Anthony Averett intercepted Drew Lock in the end zone with 3 seconds left.

Instead of taking a knee in victory formation, Jackson took the shotgun snap from his 20 and hustled around left end for a 5-yard gain. That gave the Ravens 102 yards on the ground, their 43rd consecutive 100-yard rushing game, which tied the mark set by Pittsburgh from 1974-77.

Packers 27, Steelers 17

In Green Bay, Wis., Aaron Rodgers connected with Randall Cobb for two touchdowns and ran for another score and Green Bay won its third straight.

Cobb caught a 23-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter to put the Packers (3-1) ahead for good and scored again on a 1-yard reception that made it 27-10 in the third period. That short throw was the 420th TD pass of Rodgers' career, tying Dan Marino for sixth all time.

Rodgers went 20 of 36 for 248 yards and scored the Packers' first points on a 4-yard rush in his first home start against the Steelers, the only team he hadn't faced at Lambeau Field.

Pittsburgh (1-3) has lost three straight, failing to top 17 points in each game, since a surprising season-opening win at Buffalo.

It was the first time Rodgers and Ben Roethlisberger had faced off as starting quarterbacks since Green Bay edged Pittsburgh 31-25 in the Super Bowl on Feb. 6, 2011.

Washington 34, Falcons 30

In Atlanta, Taylor Heinicke adlibbed a 30-yard touchdown pass to J.D. McKissic with 33 seconds remaining, rallying Washington over Atlanta.

Returning to the metro area where he grew up, Heinicke completed 23 of 33 passes for 290 yards and three touchdowns—two of them in the final 3:52 to pull it out for Washington (2-2).

Both were vintage Heinicke.

First, he eluded Dante Fowler Jr. and delivered an off-balance throw with another rusher in his face that Terry McLaurin, eluding two defenders, managed to catch in the back of the end zone for a 17-yard TD.

Two missed extra points by Dustin Hopkins left Washington still trailing. Heinicke threw high on the two-point conversion, preserving a 30-28 lead for the Falcons (1-3).

The Washington defense forced a punt, giving Heinicke one more chance. He drove his team into field goal range, but it turned out Hopkins wasn't needed.

Rolling to his left, Heinicke didn't see anyone open. McKissic slipped out into the right flat with no one around, Heinicke spotted him, and threw throw back across the field.

Browns 14, Vikings 7

In Minneapolis, Myles Garrett and the Cleveland defense produced another dominant performance, giving coach Kevin Stefanski a victory over his old team as the Browns beat Minnesota.

Garrett was credited with one-half of Cleveland's two sacks and four hits on Kirk Cousins, Greedy Williams became the first player this season to intercept Minnesota's quarterback and the Browns (3-1) again leaned on their two-pronged rushing attack with predictable success.

Kirk Cousins hit Justin Jefferson for a touchdown pass to cap a commanding opening drive by the Vikings (1-3), who took possession 11 more times without scoring or even trying a field goal. The furthest they came was the 26-yard line, where they had one final play to tie the game. Cousins threw on the run into the end zone, where the ball fell incomplete.

Cowboys 36, Panthers 28

In Arlington, Texas, Dak Prescott threw four touchdown passes, Ezekiel Elliott had his first 100-yard rushing game of the season against the NFL's No. 1 defense and Dallas beat Carolina.

Elliott finished with 143 yards and a touchdown on 20 carries as the Cowboys (3-1) rolled up 245 yards on the ground after the Panthers allowed just 135 total in the first three games.

Leading the Panthers in their first full game without injured star running back Christian McCaffrey, Sam Darnold had two rushing touchdowns to become the first quarterback in NFL history with at least five TDs on the ground in the first four games.

Bills 40, Texans 0

In Orchard Park, N.Y., linebacker Tremaine Edmunds had the first of Buffalo's four interceptions, and the Bills suffocated the offensively inept Houston.

Micah Hyde, Tyler Matakevich and Jaquan Johnson, in his first career start, each had interceptions, while Cam Lewis forced a fumble as Buffalo overwhelmed rookie quarterback Davis Mills in his second career start.

The Bills limited Houston to 109 yards—8 in the first half—and six first downs to earn their second shutout in three weeks. Buffalo, which blanked Miami 35-0 on Sept. 19, has two shutouts in a season for the first time since 1990.

Josh Allen finished 20 of 29 for 248 yards with two touchdowns — a 25-yarder and a 1-yarder, both to Dawson Knox — and an interception before giving way to backup Mitchell Trubisky with 8:03 remaining.

Bears 24, Lions 14

In Chicago, rookie Justin Fields brushed off a nightmarish first start, and Chicago bounced back from one of the worst offensive performances the NFL has seen to beat winless Detroit.

Fields and the Bears (2-2) were in much better form coming off a brutal loss at Cleveland last week. They rang up 373 yards after being held by the Browns to 47, the ninth-lowest total in league history.

Fields looked more comfortable, completing 11 of 17 passes for 209 yards and an interception in his second consecutive start with Andy Dalton sidelined because of a bone bruise in his left knee.

Colts 27, Dolphins 17

In Miami Gardens, Fla., Carson Wentz threw a pair of touchdown passes to Mo Alie-Cox, Jonathan Taylor rushed for 103 yards and a score and Indianapolis got its first win of the season by topping sputtering Miami.

Wentz completed 24 of 32 passes for 228 yards for the Colts (1-3), who avoided what would have been their first 0-4 start since 2011. They spent most of the day frustrating former Indianapolis quarterback Jacoby Brissett, who completed 20 of 30 passes but threw for 123 of his 199 yards in the final quarter.

It was the first two-TD game for Alie-Cox, who had a total of four scores in his first 43 NFL appearances entering Sunday.

Giants beat Padres, win NL West title on season's final day

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Logan Webb secured his spot in Giants lore with far more than his dominance on the mound. He swung for the fences and sent San Francisco to an NL West title at last, without needing to wait for the rival Dodgers' result on the season's final day.

The Giants were the majors' hottest team for months, then had to beat the San Diego Padres 11-4 on Sunday for a franchise-record 107th victory to top the 1904 New York team and hold off pesky defending World Series champion Los Angeles at the end.

Webb (11-3) did it all in leading surprising San Francisco to its first division crown since 2012, delighting a delirious, deafening crowd of 36,901. Buster Posey had an incredible day, too.

The Dodgers won 106 games.

"You're going to be hard-pressed to see another race like this for quite a while," Posey said.

Posey raised both arms into the air when Eric Hosmer struck out swinging to end it, and ran out to the mound to hug reliever Dominic Leone.

"The first thing that comes to mind for me is how proud I am of this group and what they accomplished," Giants manager Gabe Kapler told fans from the field. "Part of the reason that I feel that way is because I think we all knew at the beginning of the season, or even dating back to the beginning of spring training, what the projections are and what the industry sort of thought of us as a club. What I realized is there are some intangibles that those projections and viewpoints failed to take into consideration."

Webb walked off to a roaring standing ovation when replaced in the eighth after allowing three straight singles. He struck out eight and didn't walk a batter while pitching seven-plus stellar innings, and also hit a two-run homer in the fifth to clear the fences for his first time in his career — a pretty line drive to left.

"That was way more important," Webb said, chuckling and sharing that he got the souvenir ball. "That was a special moment for sure. But we all knew the main thing was the pitching today."

Posey drove in three runs on a pair of singles and got his 1,500th career hit as San Francisco's division hopes came down to the final day. The Giants clinched the title in Game 162 after losing 3-2 in 10 innings a day earlier as Los Angeles won at night against NL Central champion Milwaukee.

"Well, it turned out that that was a very competitive

AP

San Francisco Giants closing pitcher Dominic Leone reacts after defeating the San Diego Padres in a baseball game in San Francisco, Sunday, Oct. 3, 2021.

107 wins," Giants president of baseball operations Farhan Zaidi said. "We needed every one of them."

The Giants will host the winner of Wednesday night's wild-card game between the Dodgers and Cardinals in Game 1 of an NL Division Series on Friday at Oracle Park. Kapler hadn't picked a starter for the opener —saying he would weigh that decision Monday, ready for a tough choice between Webb and Kevin Gausman.

San Francisco wanted to earn it this way to dethrone the reigning champion Dodgers, who could have forced a Monday tiebreaker with a win and a Giants loss. The Dodgers had won the last eight NL West titles since San Francisco took the division nine years ago.

"It was our goal to win the West this year and we knew that could be a kind of lofty goal of where the projections were and where everybody thought we were going to end up," shortstop Brandon Crawford said.

San Francisco held baseball's best record for 125 days and won on the last day of the regular season for the first time since 2017. The Giants accomplished that Sunday without first baseman and home run leader Brandon Belt, sidelined by a broken left thumb.

Dodgers 10, Brewers 3

In Los Angeles, Trea Turner hit his second grand slam in less than 48 hours and won the NL batting title at .328 but the Dodgers finished as the winningest second-place team in major league history. Their streak of eight straight NL West title over, they will host St. Louis in the NL wild card game on Wednesday.

Walker Buehler (16-4) allowed one run and three hits in five innings of his career-high 33rd start. He struck out a season high-tying 11.

Aaron Ashby (3-2) was the loser. Milwaukee hosts Atlanta in the Division Series starting Friday.

Red Sox 7, Nationals 5

In Washington, Rafael Devers' second home run of the game and 38th this season, a two-run drive in the ninth off Kyle Finnegan (5-9), lifted the Red Sox into the AL wild game game against the Yankees at Fenway Park on Tuesday night.

Boston finished second at 92-70, eight games behind AL champion Tampa Bay, and will host because it won the season series from the Yankees 10-9 and New York finished with the same record.

Eduardo Rodriguez (13-8), who started and won at Washington on Friday night, threw a perfect eighth and Nick Pivetta, a starter who pitched Thursday, came on for the ninth inning and collected his first save since 2019.

J.D. Martinez left in the sixth inning with a sprained left ankle.

Yankees 1, Rays 0

In New York, Aaron Judge had his first big league walkoff hit, a one-out single in the ninth off Andrew Kittredge after Rougned Odor led off the inning against Josh Fleming (10-8) with New York's second hit.

Gio Urshela sprinted 126 feet and tumbled at full speed into the Rays dugout from a shifted shortstop position in the sixth inning to catch Austin Meadows' popup. His left thigh bruised, Urshela was replaced in the ninth.

Aroldis Chapman (6-4) struck out two and stranded a runner in the ninth, the sixth pitcher in a five-hitter.

Angels 7, Mariners 3

In Seattle, Shohei Ohtani led off the game against Tyler Anderson (7-11) with his 46th home run to reach 100 RBIs, Jared Walsh added a two-run shot against Anthony Misciewicz in the fourth and Seattle (90-72) was unable to end a playoff drought that reached 20 years.

The Mariners finished two games behind Boston and New York. Their absence from the postseason is the longest in any of the four major pro sports in North America.

The Angels were 77-85 and in fourth place in the AL West for the fourth straight season. Oliver Ortega (1-0) pitched 1 1/3 hitless innings to win his first big league decision.

Blue Jays 12, Orioles 4

In Toronto, George Springer hit two home runs, including a grand slam, and Vladimir Guerrero Jr. launched his 48th homer but Toronto finished with 91 wins, one short of the Yankees and Red Sox.

Toronto went 25-11 at home after moving back to Rogers Centre. Canadian government coronavirus restrictions caused the Blue Jays to play more than half their home games in Dunedin, Florida, and Buffalo, New York.

Hyun Jin Ryu (14-10) pitched five innings to win for the first time since Sept. 6. Bruce Zimmermann (4-5) faced seven batters and allowed three runs and five hits.

Indians 6, Rangers 0

In Arlington, Texas, Cleveland closed its 107th and final season as the Indians with a win as Aaron Civale (12-5) allowed only three singles in innings and Yu Chang homered. The Indians (80-82), who will become the Guardians by next season, finished with their first losing season since 2012.

Rookie right-hander Dane Dunning (5-10) allowed four runs and five hits over three innings for Texas, which finished with 102 losses—its most since 1973—and was shut out 15 times.

Astros 7, Athletics 6

In Houston, Yuli Gurriel at 37, became the second-oldest batting champion behind 38-year-old Barry Bonds in 2002 and hit a winning RBI single in the ninth inning off off Lou Trivino (7-8) as the AL West champions finished with a win before starting the Division Series at home against the Chicago White Sox on Thursday.

Gurriel hit .319 and became Houston's second player to win a batting title after Jose Altuve in 2014, '16 and '17.

Seth Brown's two-run homer off Zack Greinke - his second homer of the game - and Khris Davis' solo homer off Blake Taylor (4-4) tied the score in a three-run ninth. Oakland was 86-76, finishing nine games back of the Astros in third place.

Tigers 5, White Sox 2

In Chicago, Daz Cameron homered off Reynaldo Lopez (4-4) leading off the ninth to spark a three-run inning.

Detroit closed itsr fifth straight losing season at 77-85 and in third place, 16 games behind the AL Central champion White Sox (93-69).

Joe Jiménez (6-1) worked a scoreless eighth.

Reds 6, Pirates 3

In Pittsburgh, Joey Votto capped off a resurgent season by hitting his 36th home run, and Nick Castellanos reached the 100-RBI plateau for the second time in his caree.

Rookie Reiver Sanmartin (2-0) beat the Pirates for the second time in as many starts as Cincinnati finished over .500 (83-29) over the course of a 162-game season for the first time since 2013.

Pittsburgh's 61-101 mark is the franchise's worst since 2010. Cody Ponce (0-6) was the loser, and the Pirates dropped to 0-16 when trying for series sweeps.

Diamondbacks 5, Rockies 4

In Phoenix, Josh VanMeter hit a tiebreaking homer off Carlos Estevez (3-5) with two outs in the ninth, a rare happy moment as Arizona finished 52-110 and tied with Baltimore for the worst in the majors. Colorado went 74-87.

J.B. Wendelken (4-3) pitched a scoreless ninth.

Braves 5, Mets 0

In Atlanta, Austin Riley drove in two runs with two hits.

New York finished with three hits and ended at 77-85 after leading the division for 90 consecutive days, leaving manager Luis Rojas unsure of his fate under new owner Steven Cohen.

Noah Syndergaard (0-1) allowed two runs, including a leadoff homer to Jorge Soler, in his one scheduled inning during his second start after returning from Tommy John surgery.

Spencer Strider (1-0) threw 1 1/3 scoreless innings in his second appearance after rising through four levels of the Braves' minor leagues this season.

Cubs 3, Cardinals 2

In St. Louis, Matt Duffy extended his hitting streak to a career-high 13 games with a pair of run-scoring singles in a game shortened to seven innings by rain. St. Louis won 19 of its last 22 games.

Chicago lost 91 games, the most since it went 66-96 in 2013, and used amajor league-record 69 players

Joe Biagini (1-0) pitched three scoreless innings in his season debut. Jake Woodford (3-4) gave up three runs and six hits in five innings.

Marlins 5, Phillies 4

In Miami, Nick Fortes hit a tiebreaking two-run home run in the fourth off Hector Neris (4-7) and the Marlins at 67-95 finished their 11th losing season in 12 years.

Bryce Harper doubled and walked before being replaced in the bottom of the third. A contender for NL MVP, he hit .309 with 35 homers, 84 RBIs and a major league-best 1.044 OPS.

Philadelphia was 82-80 in its first winning season since last reaching the playoffs in 2011. Zach Thompson (3-7) pitched a scoreless fourth.

Twins 7, Royals 3

In Minneapolis, Byron Buxton and Jorge Polanco homered. The Twins got to rookie Jackson Kowar (0-6) by scoring five runs in the first inning, three on Polanco's homer

Nick Vincent (1-0) got the win after throwing two scoreless innings for Minnesota, last in the AL Central at 73-89 in the AL Central after winning the division the previous two years. The Royals went 74-88.

Mourning Team Kio nips Rampage, 73-71

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Team Kio bucked the absence of several key players following the untimely passing of a teammate and a brother to several players to edge Rampage, 73-71, in the Island-wide Men's BudLight Basketball League last Friday at the Tinian Multi-Purpose Gymnasium.

The Sablan brothers—Dustin, Bing, Paka, and their half-brother Kim King—didn't suit up following the death of their brother Kioni from liver cancer. However, the team rallied around their namesake and pulled out a gutsy win despite having only seven players available throughout the game.

Rampage controlled the game early and went up, 23-21, after the first 10 minutes of action as Jayron Epity and Vinny Untalan knocked in 8 points apiece.

Robert Reyes kept Kio in the game in the second quarter after firing 11 points as the teams went into the halftime break all squared up at 37-37.

Lucio Sanchez took over the scoring reins from Reyes at the start of the second half, scoring 10 points of his own as Kio managed to take the lead, 60-56, going into the final 10 minutes of the contest. Kio's run came despite Wesley Walker scattering 8 points in the period.

The fourth and final quarter continued to be a nip-and-tuck affair. The tide turned, however, when Rampage's Rudy Borja got a technical foul for rough play that allowed Kio to eventually escape with the 2-point win, which raised its record to 10-0, while exacting Rampage its second loss in 10 matches..

Reyes shone all game long for the mourning Kio squad with 32 big points, while Sanchez chipped in 20 points of his own. Rampage was led by the 26 markers of Walker with Epity contributing 18 points in the loss.

In the second game, Ko'Bees outlasted Team CNMI, 69-66, in a hot and intense game that had a lot of physical plays and trash talking from both teams. To keep control of the game, officials had to call technical fouls on a couple of Ko'Bees and Team CNMI players.

The win allowed Ko'Bees to extricate itself from the cellar at 3-7, while it was the sixth loss in 10 outings for Team CNMI.

Games last night were cancelled after rainwater seeped through the Tinian Multi-Purpose Gymnasium.

"Due to the court being flooded, wet, slippery, and for the safety of the players, the games have been cancelled. [Department of Community and Cultural Affairs] staff tried their very best to mop up the water but it kept on leaking," said organizers in a social media post.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Team Kio, shown here posing for a group photo in this file photo, played shorthanded following the death of a teammate but still beat Rampage in the Island-wide Men's BudLight Basketball League last Friday at the Tinian Multi-Purpose Gymnasium.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kio Sablan, 22, succumbed to stage 4 liver cancer.

First Game

Team Kio 73 – Reyes 32, Sanchez 20, Cruz 14, Cabrera 7.

Rampage 71 – Walker 26, J. Epity 18, Untalan 16, Pascua 4, Cepeda 3, Erickson 2, Borja 2.

Scoring by quarters: 21-23, 37-37, 60-56, 73-71.

Second Game

Ko'Bees 69 – Jay 16, Slim 15, Miklo 11, Haropol 11, Cross 10, Stanley 6.

Team CNMI 66 – A. Borja 25, Maligson 18, D. Borja 9, E. Borja 6, Lizama 4, Monkeya 3.

Scoring by quarters: 20-10, 35-26, 56-50, 69-66.

SIKKEL

From Page 20

the cross country championships, Sikkel said there's a fairly good chance he lands in the Top 3.

Saipan Community School's Kim was the fleetest afoot in the girls middle school division after crossing the finish line in 12.22. A couple of SIS runners—Aubrey White and Suki Peng—came in second and third with runs of 12.5 and 13.33, respectively.

SIS topped the girls middle school division with GCA finishing runner-up.

Kim said she's just thankful she won her division.

"When I'm running I want to give up and walk because I'm tired. However my coach taught me that having a positive attitude while running is very important. I started running over 9 years ago when I was in K-5 and now I am in the 8th grade. I appreciate SCS for giving me the opportunity to run cross country. I will keep running until I graduate college and I thank my coaches for helping me improve as a runner!" she said.

Results of the elementary division will be published in tomorrow's issue of *Saipan Tribune*.

LADY

From Page 20

bio, Julie Ann Capayas, Daejah Benavente, Rizza Relucio, Raina Avelino, Raenna Ramarui, Kalista Klaver, and Kina Rangamar.

SIS 2 fared better than their older sisters as the Lady Geckos 2 scored its second win in eight games after eking out a hard-fought 15-25, 25-13, 15-12 win. KHS fell to 1-6.

In the second game, Grace Christian Academy 1 made 8-0 in the season after an easy 25-8, 25-6 victory over Saipan Southern High School 1, which remained their polar opposites at 0-7.

Mt. Carmel School 1 then didn't show any sisterly love against MCS 3 after drubbing them, 25-8, 25-5, to improve their win-loss record to 5-3. MCS 3 fell to 5-4.

MHS 2, meanwhile, was triumphant against MCS 2 after a 25-14, 25-21 win. It was MHS 2's fifth win in eight games, while the defeat dropped MCS 2 to 2-5.

GCA 2 raised its record to 5-3 following a 25-16, 25-20 win over MHS 3, which is now at 3-6.

The second to the last game then saw MCS 1 win its second match of the day after getting the better of SSHS 2, 25-6, 25-13. The win allowed them to move up to 6-3, while SSHS 2 found itself even deeper down in the standings at 0-8.

KHS then recorded its second win of the season by beating MHS, 22-25, 25-17, 15-6. MHS 3 absorbed its third loss in 10 games.

The NMIVA-PSS Interscholastic Girls High School Volleyball League 2021-2022 season continues today with SSHS 1 taking on unbeaten MHS 1 and MCS 2 challenging SIS 1 in the 4:30pm first games. The second matches at 5:30pm then pits SIS 2 vs GCA 1 and MHS 2 vs MCS 3. The final games at 6:15pm then feature GCA 2 against MHS 2 and SIS 1 vs sister team SIS 2.

NAKAMURA

From Page 20

"The strong part of my game last Saturday was putting and getting on the green. I'm really looking forward to represent the CNMI and make our islands proud in next year's Mini Games."

Last Saturday's tryout was also the last where golf carts were allowed as the final qualifier will mandate participants to walk the course at COP. Nakamura said he doesn't mind the change.

"I've been conditioning myself and I run everyday so I can finish the 18 holes of golf," he said.

He added that he actually hardly hit the links, but always hits the driving range whenever he can. Nakamura has been playing golf since 2011 and has a low handicap of 2.

Togawa came away with the lowest score among the women after the Kamakura, Kanagawa Prefecture in Japan native finished with an 89. She was followed by Nirimai Kobel with her 90 with Hyun Son third with her score of 93.

"The course conditions were perfect. The green was well maintained and the wind was strong, so it was difficult. However, the grass was so tight in the hall that it was difficult to match the reading of the putt," Togawa told *Saipan Tribune*.

Togawa has been playing the sport for the past 16 years and has a handicap of 6.

In the men's junior division, Li Zhi Yun made it 4-for-4 after firing a 79. Joshua Atalig was second with an 87 with Joey "Kazu" Dela Cruz coming in third with his 97.

Like Yun, Zhimin Jin also scored a four-peat in the women's junior division after shooting a 90. Soarin Oh came in second with her 116.

In related news, CFoGA will host a golf tournament on Oct. 16 and all the proceeds will benefit the CNMI National Golf Team. Dubbed the Black Jack Golf Tournament, the entry fee is $100.

Coincidentally, the fund-raising golf tournament will be held the same time as the last golf tryout for next year's Mini Games where all players trying out for the CNMI National Golf Team will have to walk the 18 holes.

The Black Jack Golf Tournament banquet is also where the CFoGA will present the members of CNMI National Golf Team for the Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Tampa Bay	100	62	.617	_
y-Boston	92	70	.568	8
y-New York	92	70	.568	8
Toronto	91	71	.562	9
Baltimore	52	110	.321	48

Central Division

x-Chicago	93	69	.574	_
Cleveland	80	82	.494	13
Detroit	77	85	.475	16
Kansas City	74	88	.457	19
Minnesota	73	89	.451	20

West Division

x-Houston	95	67	.586	_
Seattle	90	72	.556	5
Oakland	86	76	.531	9
Los Angeles	77	85	.475	18
Texas	60	102	.370	35

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

x-Atlanta	88	73	.547	_
Philadelphia	82	80	.506	6½
New York	77	85	.475	11½
Miami	67	95	.414	21½
Washington	65	97	.401	23½

Central Division

x-Milwaukee	95	67	.586	_
y-St. Louis	90	72	.556	5
Cincinnati	83	79	.512	12
Chicago	71	91	.438	24
Pittsburgh	61	101	.377	34

West Division

x-San Francisco	107	55	.660	_
y-Los Angeles	106	56	.654	1
San Diego	79	83	.488	28
Colorado	74	87	.460	32½
Arizona	52	110	.321	55

x-clinched division
y-clinched wild card

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	3	1	0	.750	134	44
Miami	1	3	0	.250	62	109
N.Y. Jets	1	3	0	.250	47	94
New England	1	3	0	.250	71	70

South

Tennessee	2	2	0	.500	95	111
Houston	1	3	0	.250	67	116
Indianapolis	1	3	0	.250	83	97
Jacksonville	0	4	0	.000	74	115

North

Baltimore	3	1	0	.750	105	92
Cincinnati	3	1	0	.750	92	75
Cleveland	3	1	0	.750	100	67
Pittsburgh	1	3	0	.250	67	93

West

Las Vegas	3	0	0	1.000	90	72
Denver	3	1	0	.750	83	49
L.A. Chargers	2	1	0	.667	67	60
Kansas City	2	2	0	.500	134	125

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

Dallas	3	1	0	.750	126	97
Washington	2	2	0	.500	101	122
N.Y. Giants	1	3	0	.250	83	95
Philadelphia	1	3	0	.250	94	106

South

Carolina	3	1	0	.750	97	66
Tampa Bay	3	1	0	.750	122	105
New Orleans	2	2	0	.500	94	69
Atlanta	1	3	0	.250	78	128

North

Green Bay	3	1	0	.750	95	100
Chicago	2	2	0	.500	64	91
Minnesota	1	3	0	.250	94	92
Detroit	0	4	0	.000	81	119

West

Arizona	4	0	0	1.000	140	85
L.A. Rams	3	1	0	.750	115	99
San Francisco	2	2	0	.500	107	102
Seattle	2	2	0	.500	103	

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Mourning Team Kio nips Rampage, 73-71

PAGE 19

Nakamura, Togawa top golf qualifier

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Yuko Togawa was without peer among the women in the fourth tryout for the CNMI National Golf Team for the 2022 Northern Marianas Mini Games last Saturday at the Coral Ocean Resort.

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Harry Nakamura Jr. and Yuko Togawa topped their respective men's and women's divisions of the penultimate tryout for the CNMI National Golf Team for the 2022 Northern Marianas Mini Games last Saturday at the Coral Ocean Resort.

The 28-year-old Division of Customs officer won the Commonwealth Federation of Golf Associations-organized fourth tryout for the men's division after carding a 2-over par 74. CFoGA vice president J.J. Atalig finished second with a 5-over par 77, while completing the Top 3 was Joe Sasamoto who wound up with the same 5-over par 77 score as Atalig but lost in a scorecard tiebreak.

Nakamura said the field conditions at COP last weekend were pretty alright, but what really helped him was his short game and his ability to put the ball on the green.

See NAKAMURA on Page 19

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Harry Nakamura Jr., seen here in a file photo, topped the fourth tryout in the men's division for the CNMI National Golf Team for the 2022 Northern Marianas Mini Games last Saturday at the Coral Ocean Resort.

Sikkel, Kim rule middle school XC qualifier

By MARK RABAGO
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GCA, SIS split team events

Moshe Sikkel and Abbie Kim dominated the middle school division of the final PSS/NMA Cross Country Qualifier last Saturday at the old Saipan Country Club golf course behind Saipan Vegas.

Saipan International School's Sikkel finished first in the under-14 division after completing the 2-mile course in 9.43. He was followed by Francisco M. Sablan Middle School's Christian Lucero and Grace Christian Academy's Takeru Jim with times of 10.05 and 10.59. respectively.

In the team event, GCA topped the boys middle school division with Mt. Carmel School coming second and SIS taking third place.

Sikkel, who also won the first two editions of the cross country race, said last Saturday's competition was a good tune-up for the championships next week.

"It felt like I ran a good race. Since the next race is the same it was a good chance to practice for next week," he said.

When asked what he thinks about his chances in

See SIKKEL on Page 19

Lady Dolphins 1 breathing down neck of GCA 1

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Marianas High School 1 continued to enjoy its literal homecourt advantage after notching its seventh win with no loss against Saipan International School 1 in the NMIVA-PSS Interscholastic Girls High School Volleyball League 2021-2022 season last Saturday at the MHS Gymnasium.

Seeing action in the third game, the Lady Dolphins 1 surprised an equally strong Lady Geckos 1 team, 24-14, after the first set. It was payback time for SIS 1 in the second set, as the Lady Geckos 1 nipped MHS 1, 25-22. Coach Don Marshall Cabrera's girls then outplayed SIS 1 in the rubber set, 15-12, to prevail and give their vanquished foes only their second loss in eight matches.

The MHS 1 squad includes Arisa Custodio, Abigail Decena, Madelleen Narciso, Fatima Monteru-

See LADY on Page 19

MARK RABAGO

Grace Christian Academy 2 players duel Marianas High School 3 players in the NMIVA-PSS Interscholastic Girls High School Volleyball League 2021-2022 season last Saturday at the MHS Gymnasium.